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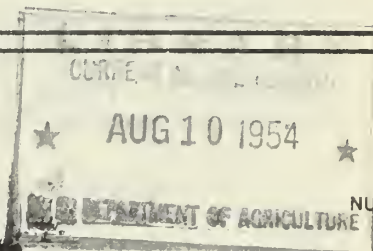
Foreign CROPS AND MARKETS



VOLUME 69

FOR RELEASE MONDAY, JULY 26, 1954

CONTENTS



NUMBER 4

	PAGE
COTTON	
Cotton Consumption Remains High in Western Germany.....	85
U.S. Cotton Exports Down in May but Still Heavy.....	98
Improvement in Italian Cotton Industry Continues.....	102
The Netherlands Increases Cotton Imports.....	102
FATS, OILSEEDS AND OILS	
U.K. Ministry of Food Selling Stocks of Oilseeds and Oils.....	100
Cuban Lard Imports Up 16 Percent in Second Quarter.....	101
Mexico's Imports of Animal Fats in January-May Increase; Exports of Peanuts Down.....	109
Sierra Leone Palm Kernel Exports Down.....	101
FRUIT, VEGETABLES AND NUTS	
U.S. Bean Exports Off 28 Percent in First 9 Months of Current Marketing Season.....	90
Filbert Production in 1954 Forecast Highest Since 1951.....	74
Bumper Pistachio Crop Forecast in Iran.....	77
Turkish Walnut Situation.....	77
FOREIGN TRADE	
U.S. Foreign Agricultural Trade in May, 1954.....	93
GRAINS, GRAIN PRODUCTS AND FEEDS	
U.S. Rice Exports Near Last Year's Level.....	77
World Rice Trade Down in 1953.....	79
France Reports Large Wheat Crop.....	100
Spring-Sown Acreage Increases in Soviet Union.....	92
LIVESTOCK AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS	
International Trade in Dairy Products in 1953.....	104
Pork Prices in Cuba.....	86
Costa Rica Removes Ban on Export of Beef Cattle.....	87
Import Ratio on Powdered Milk May be Reduced by Venezuela.....	88
Finland Adjusts Subsidies on Dairy Products.....	88
Australia to Maintain Butter and Cheese Subsidies.....	89
Venezuela Hatching Domestic Eggs.....	89
Colombia Refuses to Import Fresh Eggs and Frozen Poultry.....	89
Cuba Permitting Free Importation of Fresh Hen Eggs.....	89
TOBACCO AND TROPICAL PRODUCTS	
U.S. Tobacco Exports in May, 1954.....	83
China Increases Flue-cured Acreage.....	85
Portugal's First Quarter Imports of Leaf Tobacco Up Slightly.....	85
TRADE DEVELOPMENTS IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES.....	112

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

L A T E N E W S

The Egyptian Government has increased the export tax on the Menoufi variety of cotton, effective September 1, 1954, to the same rate as Karnak, LE6 per 100 gross kilos (equivalent to 7.84 U. S. cents per pound) instead of the previous rate of LE4 per 100 gross kilos (5.23 cents). Menoufi is second in staple length to Karnak, but averages only 1 to 2 percent of the total Egyptian crop.

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Spain has purchased 4,000 bales of Egyptian cotton, to be shipped during July 1954, consisting of 3,300 bales of Ashmouni, Good 3/8 and 700 bales of Ashmouni, Fully Good. The cotton is to be paid for on 3-month credit under the Spanish-Egyptian clearing agreement.

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The latest estimate for the 1953-54 cotton crop in Paraguay places production at 52,000 bales (500 pounds gross) modifying an earlier report of crop deterioration from unfavorable weather, which placed production at 45,000 bales.

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Cotton mill consumption in Canada during June 1954 amounted to 23,000 bales (500 pounds gross) dropping 9 percent from the previous month, and 19 percent from June 1953. Consumption for the 11-month period August-June 1953-54 totaled 287,000 bales which is 17 percent below consumption of 347,000 bales in August-June 1952-53.

(Continued on Page 114)

FOREIGN CROPS AND MARKETS

Published weekly to assist the for foreign marketing of U. S. farm products by keeping the nation's agricultural interests informed of current crop and livestock developments abroad, foreign trends in production, prices, supplies and consumption of farm products, and other factors affecting world agricultural trade. Circulation is free to persons in the U. S. needing the information it contains.

Foreign Crops and Markets is distributed only upon a request basis. Should you find you have no need for this publication, please tear off the addressograph imprint with your name and address on the enclosing envelope, pencil "drop" upon it, and send it to the Foreign Agricultural Service, Room 5922, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

FILBERT PRODUCTION IN 1954 FORECAST HIGHEST SINCE 1951 ^{1/}

The 1954 production of filberts in the 4 major producing countries, Turkey, Italy, Spain and the United States, will be over 25 percent greater than last year, according to preliminary crop indications. A total production of 132,850 short tons, unshelled basis, has been forecast for these four countries, compared with 105,760 tons in 1953.

FILBERTS, UNSHELLED: Estimated commercial production,
in specified countries,
1954 forecast with comparisons

Country	Average 1946-50	1951	1952	1953	Indicated 1954
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
Italy.....	31,900	33,000	14,900	^{1/} 37,000	20,000
Spain.....	20,000	12,600	9,800	^{1/} 21,800	14,000
Turkey.....	<u>65,500</u>	<u>91,000</u>	<u>67,000</u>	<u>42,000</u>	<u>90,000</u>
Foreign total...	117,400	136,600	91,700	100,800	124,000
United States.....	<u>8,300</u>	<u>6,920</u>	<u>12,250</u>	<u>4,960</u>	<u>8,850</u>
World total.....	125,700	143,520	103,950	105,760	132,850

^{1/} Revised.

Production in the 3 foreign countries only has been forecast at 124,000 short tons, unshelled, 23 percent larger than the estimated 1953 crop of 100,800 tons, and also the largest since 1951. A much larger crop than last year is expected in Turkey, the world's leading filbert producer, while substantially smaller crops than in 1953 are indicated for Italy and Spain.

Growing conditions in Turkey have been favorable thus far this season. Rains which fell during mid-June all along the eastern Black Sea coast were reported as very beneficial to the crop. It has also been reported that the quality of the crop is expected to equal that of last year.

In Italy, the filbert crop is expected to be sharply lower in the Naples-Avellino area and even more so in Sicily. In the former, the indicated small crop is basically attributable to the fact that last season's crop was heavy. Also, weather conditions in the spring could not be considered favorable. In Sicily, adverse weather during the winter months reportedly caused severe damage. Here, too, a drop in production, after last year's unusually heavy crop, is in conformity with alternate-bearing tendencies.

^{1/} A more extensive statement will be published shortly as a Foreign Agricultural Circular by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Foreign Agricultural Service, Washington 25, D. C.

UNITED STATES: Exports of shelled and unshelled filberts,
by country of destination 1/
average 1946-47/1950-51 and annual 1950-51/1953-54

Year beginning September 1

Year	Canada	Mexico	Panama Canal Zone	Cuba	Venezuela	Other countries	Total
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
	S H E L L E D	S H E L L E D	S H E L L E D	U N S H E L L E D	S H E L L E D	S H E L L E D	S H E L L E D
Average:							
1946-47).....	47	9	2/	187	2/	62	305
1950-51).....							
Annual:							
1950-51.....	27	5	2/	280	2/	25	337
1951-52.....	2	3	2/	325	2/	22	352
		S H E L L E D					
Annual:							
1952-53.....	0	0	0	0	1	1	2
1953-54 <u>3/</u>	3	0	0	1	9	0	13
		U N S H E L L E D					
Annual:							
1952-53.....	250	3	2	199	13	14	481
1953-54 <u>3/</u> ...	8	7	15	146	22	13	211

1/ Unclassified as to shelled or unshelled prior to January 1, 1952.

2/ If any, included in "others".

3/ Nine months, September-May.

Compiled from official records of the Bureau of the Census.

In Spain, a smaller crop has been forecast, following the good harvest in 1953, primarily because of the alternate-bearing characteristic. Soil moisture conditions have been excellent in recent months. The severe February cold wave is reported to have done very little damage to the filbert trees, since most of the producing area is located along the sheltered Tarragona coast. In addition, the trees bloomed after the freeze.

Foreign stocks, as of July 1, 1954, are estimated at about 11,000 short tons, unshelled basis. This compares with stocks estimated, possibly conservatively, at about 9,500 tons at the same time a year earlier. Turkey, with a little over 7,000 tons still on hand, has the largest holdings.

The balance of the filbert stocks are found in Italy, in both the Naples area and in Sicily. In Spain, there is virtually no carry-over available for export. July 1 stocks in these three countries, both this year and last, have been much below those of the same date in 1951 and 1952, when approximately 17,000 and 35,000 tons, respectively, were on hand.

Foreign exports in 1953-54, based on information extending until June 1, 1954 are estimated at nearly 95,000 short tons, unshelled basis. By the same time last year, only the equivalent of approximately 80,000 tons, unshelled basis, had moved into international trade. Total 1953-54 foreign exports, however, will probably not exceed the total 1952-53 exports of 91,000 tons by this great a margin.

UNITED STATES: Imports of shelled and unshelled filberts,
by country of origin,
average 1946-47/1950-51 and annual 1950-51/1953-54

Year beginning September 1

Year	Italy	Spain	Turkey	Other countries	Total
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
<u>S H E L L E D</u>					
Average:					
1946-47).....					
1950-51	189	44	3,063	37	3,333
Annual:					
1950-51.....	689	103	1,292	79	2,163
1951-52.....	332	105	3,439	36	3,912
1952-53.....	240	132	1,959	2	2,333
1953-54 1/	519	786	1,117	27	2,449
<u>U N S H E L L E D</u>					
Average:					
1946-47).....					
1950-51	334	14	0	0	348
Annual:					
1950-51.....	0	0	0	0	0
1951-52.....	100	0	0	0	100
1952-53.....	74	0	0	0	74
1953-54 1/	222	0	0	0	222

1/ Nine months, September-May.

Compiled from official records of the Bureau of the Census.

BUMPER PISTACHIO CROP FORECAST IN IRAN

A preliminary estimate by the Iranian Ministry of Agriculture places Iran's 1954 pistachio nut crop at over 10,000 short tons. The 1953 crop, an unusually small one, was estimated at only 1,600 short tons. Should the 1954 forecast materialize, it would represent by far the largest pistachio nut crop recorded in Iran. Growing conditions have been unusually favorable for the 1954 crop. An increased production this year is also in conformity with the alternate-bearing characteristic of the pistachio trees, following last year's small crop. Since domestic consumption is believed to be usually in the vicinity of 1,500 tons, an exceptionally large quantity of nuts would be available for export.

TURKISH WALNUT SITUATION

Preliminary estimates, still subject to considerable change, indicate a Turkish walnut crop approximately as large as, or possibly a little larger, than the 1953 crop. Weather conditions up to early July have been favorable for a good crop, but the quality and quantity of the crop are still largely dependent upon the weather prevailing the rest of July and August. Estimates of the exportable surplus, which usually accounts for only a small portion of the crop, will not be available until later in the season.

At present, stocks of export grades from the 1953 crop are very limited, and reportedly aggregate about 25 metric tons, shelled. Export prices in early July were reported as: \$68 for light amber pieces; \$88 for light pieces; \$73 for light amber halves; and \$93 for light halves, per 100 kilograms (220 pounds) f.o.b., Istanbul.

U. S. RICE EXPORTS NEAR LAST YEAR'S LEVEL

Rice exports in the August-May period of the 1953-54 marketing year totaled 14,913,000 bags (100 pounds) compared with 14,922,000 bags in the corresponding months of the preceding year. Exports to Japan amounted to 8,500,000 bags against 4,400,000 bags in the like period of 1952-53. Increased exports to Japan and countries in the Western Hemisphere and Europe were offset, however, by declines in rice shipments to the countries of Asia, excluding Japan.

Rice exports in May totaled 995,000 bags as compared with 885,000 bags in April and with 1,047,000 bags in May of a year earlier. Shipments to Cuba exceeded those of April, and also were larger than in the same month of the year before. May exports to Japan declined from April, but exceeded those of May 1953.

RICE: United States exports to specified countries,
May 1954, with comparisons 1/

Country of destination	August-July		August-May		May	
	1951-52	1952-53	1952-53	1953-54 2/	1953	1954 2/
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	<u>bags</u>	<u>bags</u>	<u>bags</u>	<u>bags</u>	<u>bags</u>	<u>bags</u>
Western Hemisphere:						
Canada.....	443:	601:	566:	583:	34:	48
British Honduras.....	22:	3:	3:	12:	0:	0
British W. Indies.....	54:	81:	80:	5:	3/	3/
Cuba.....	5,118:	4,876:	3,849:	4,407:	34:	417
Netherlands Antilles.....	25:	41:	36:	47:	3:	6
Venezuela.....	196:	86:	64:	180:	3/	12
Colombia.....	3/	3/	3/	62:	3/	5
Other countries.....	38:	15:	9:	28:	1:	2
Total.....	5,896:	5,703:	4,607:	5,324:	72:	490
Europe:						
Belgium & Luxembourg.....	57:	52:	46:	184:	0:	3
Greece.....	209:	3/	3/	5:	0:	3/
Iceland.....	3:	8:	8:	3/	1:	0
Switzerland.....	21:	38:	38:	52:	0:	3/
West Germany.....	1:	3/	3/	17:	0:	0
Other countries.....	3/	2:	1:	37:	0:	1
Total.....	291:	100:	93:	295:	1:	4
Asia:						
Saudi Arabia.....	91:	138:	121:	104:	18:	9
Ceylon.....	741:	647:	647:	0:	0:	0
Indonesia.....	1,799:	1,100:	1,100:	0:	0:	0
Philippines.....	71:	3/	0:	3/	0:	0
Korea Republic of.....	2,821:	4/ 4,631:	4/ 3,096:	4/ 590:	4/ 416:	0
Hong Kong.....	0:	179:	179:	0:	0:	0
Japan.....	5,430:	4,420:	4,420:	8,508:	410:	468
Ryukyu Islands.....	0:	616:	616:	0:	130:	0
Other countries.....	2:	5:	4:	23:	0:	1
Total.....	10,962:	11,736:	10,183:	9,225:	974:	478
Total Oceania.....	13:	19:	17:	14:	3/	0
Liberia.....	73:	22:	22:	45:	3/	22
Other Africa.....	4:	1:	3/	4:	0:	0
Other countries.....	-:	-:	-:	5/ 6:	-:5/	1
Total world.....	17,239:	17,581:	14,922:	14,913:	1,047:	995

1/ Milled rice, including brown, broken, screenings and brewers' rice and rough rice converted to terms of milled at 65 percent. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Less than 500 pounds. 4/ Adjusted to include all programs of the Department of Defense and the Foreign Operations Administration. 5/ Starting with January 1954, "other countries" includes shipments valued at less than \$500 each when the number of such shipments to a country in a given month is few.

Source: Bureau of the Census, except as noted.

WORLD RICE TRADE DOWN IN 1953

International trade in rice in 1953 dropped 10 percent as compared with the year before, according to the Foreign Agricultural Service. Total exports, including reexports, in terms of milled rice totaled 10,090 million pounds as compared with 11,090 million pounds in 1952. This decline occurred despite the fact that exportable supplies at the beginning of 1953 were the largest since World War II.

Increased rice production in some large importing areas and increased imports of other grains because of high prices of rice were factors that effected a decrease in the total rice trade. World rice exports during 1953 were just one-half the volume exported prior to World War II (average 1936-40). As a result of the war, international trade in rice dropped to a low level of around 20 percent of the prewar trade. Then in every year from 1946 until 1952 world trade in rice continued to recover.

Exporting countries: Rice exports decreased in all major areas except North America and Oceania, where gains were only slight. Several major producing countries decreased exports, while minor countries continued to increase the amount exported.

Despite a decline in the rice trade of the principal rice-exporting countries of the Far East, exports from Asia in 1953 comprised 65 percent of the world trade in rice. Nevertheless, total rice exports of the surplus countries of the Far East continued a downward trend in the third successive year. This occurred in Thailand and Indochina, whereas in Burma, although the exports of 1952 exceeded those of 1951, exports in 1953 were well below both of those years. Indochina ranks far below its prewar position as sometimes the second largest world exporter of rice, vying with Thailand, but now exporting only 14 percent of the prewar level.

Thailand and Burma together in 1953 exported approximately one-half of the total world rice trade. To illustrate the trend in the rice trade of the Far East, the total exports of these 2 countries in the prewar average period (1936-40) amounted in rounded numbers to 9,400 million pounds; in the 5 years following the war (1946-50) they averaged 4,100 million pounds, or less than one-half the former level, and total imports in 1951, 1952, and 1953 were 6,200 million pounds, 6,100 million pounds, and 5,100 million pounds, respectively. The total volume exported by Thailand and Burma in 1951 was the largest in postwar years.

Rice exports from China in 1953 are estimated at 650 million pounds, in accordance with the rice-rubber agreement with Ceylon, and Pakistan and Taiwan exported around 130 million pounds each. In the Near East, Iran's rice exports were the largest in several years, and, as a result of increased production, Turkey exported a significant volume.

The Continent having the second largest rice exports was North America, with 11 percent of the 1953 world trade. The United States, again the third largest exporter, was the leading country, and exports increased in Costa Rica and Nicaragua.

Continent and country	Average 1946-50		1951		1952		1953	
	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
NORTH AMERICA:								
British Honduras.....	-	2,644	-	3,045	-	2,003	-	2,377
Canada.....	1,026	42,747	25,000	92,540	8,885	53,429	100	61,895
Costa Rica.....	626	1,936	353	8	2	8	3,344	1
El Salvador.....	3,598	108	0	4,095	66	585	0	560
Guatemala.....	279	856	2	2,680	2	92	2,451	-
Honduras.....	2,294	466	354	85	85	5	-	-
Mexico.....	47,314	1,560	1,769	11	4,418	90	2	11
Nicaragua.....	10,643	2	18,403	2	11,087	19	75,000	-
Panama Republic.....	4	6,779	1,425	7,644	1,367	6,881	-	0
Panama Canal Zone.....	-	3,968	-	-	-	-	-	-
United States.....	962,169	3,170	1,081,576	75,743	1,803,896	20,261	1,750,265	21,986
Bahamas.....	-	2,647	-	3,696	-	-2,688	-	3,000
Barbados.....	-	16,330	-	17,696	-	-16,912	-	23,300
Bermuda.....	-	529	-	441	-	441	-	-
Cuba.....	1	540,796	0	640,842	-	466,400	-	557,700
Curacao.....	-	5,498	-	7,308	-	6,393	-	-
Dominican Republic.....	2,187	1,776	5	2,572	1	-	1,588	5
Guadeloupe.....	88	12,165	-	11,909	-	-	-	-
Haiti.....	824	442	3	195	-	18,501	-	-
Jamaica.....	-	16,486	-	44,128	-	422	-	184
Other Br. West Indies.....	-	11,440	-	11,000	-	55,115	-	50,000
Martinique.....	-	5,388	-	6,248	-	11,000	-	13,500
Trinidad and Tobago.....	-	26,847	131	32,722	141	6,402	-	3,732
Total.....	1,031,053	704,578	1,129,019	968,608	1,829,946	703,040	1,833,025	807,995
EUROPE:								
Austria.....	7	9,735	-	47,536	-	50,279	-	55,545
Canary Islands.....	-	5,071	-	11,464	-	13,007	-	-
Belgium.....	603	47,354	26,215	108,733	14,804	50,234	16,299	60,144
Denmark.....	0	2,030	6	8,663	162	18,292	17	14,415
Finland.....	0	3,441	0	15,713	-	21,891	17	15,079
France.....	1,001	78,731	1,953	171,775	5,726	69,281	19,705	67,807
Germany.....	-	88,967	0	193,716	3,570	129,118	3,814	204,939
Greece.....	-	29,596	-	49,843	1,593	9,538	45,985	1,531
Iceland.....	-	1,064	-	1,223	-	1,200	-	1,200
Ireland.....	-	3,113	-	5,702	-	5,807	-	6,273
Italy.....	182,919	746	491,632	27	607,134	2	536,767	4
Malta.....	-	1,463	-	1,984	-	1,323	-	-
Netherlands.....	11,906	52,742	87,313	169,494	41,539	62,337	60,653	88,590
Norway.....	0	3,395	0	6,884	0	1,102	0	13,131
Portugal.....	4,394	18,066	8	2,539	49,273	2,343	-	1,415
Spain.....	15,450	1,448	2	122	146,258	28	136,427	-
Sweden.....	82	11,496	17,797	23,922	186	12,430	-	21,321
Switzerland.....	40	47,191	34	32,953	13,139	25,664	50	53,177
United Kingdom.....	2,510	73,030	-	158,100	-	107,955	-	108,571
Yugoslavia.....	-	2,109	-	5,512	-	4,278	-	-
Other countries.....	88	16,217	11,023	15,500	25,220	32,500	70,000	17,000
Total.....	219,000	497,005	635,981	1,031,405	908,604	616,609	889,734	747,642

Continued -

ASIA:									
Aden.....	5,600:	11,067:	:	:	:	7,716:	11,684:	:	:
Cyprus.....	-	3,946:	:	:	:	-	3,031:	:	:
Iran.....	46,281:	111:	:	:	:	31,548:	2/	182,300:	6,217
Iraq.....	5,201:	3,244:	6/	:	:	4,134:	2/	2,798:	-
Israel and Palestine.....	-	12,122:	:	:	:	-	-	-	-
Jordan.....	-	11,244:	:	:	:	-	-	-	-
Lebanon.....	-	1,537:	:	:	:	-	19,180:	-	-
Syria.....	-	19,738:	:	:	:	2,643:	22:	8,598:	15,500
Saudi Arabia.....	-	37,543:	:	:	:	-	18,289:	-	-
Turkey.....	-	447:	:	:	:	-	88,625:	-	-
Total Near East 7/.....	58,623:	139,462:	74,259:	1:	116:	43,420:	1,159:	21,341:	1,500
North Borneo.....	-	19,260:	-	:	:	-	189,041:	214,439:	193,317
Brunei.....	-	4,563:	-	:	:	-	31,696:	-	-
Saravak.....	-	37,769:	-	:	:	-	11,989:	-	81,536
Burma.....	2,147,120:	-	2,796,387:	-	:	2,923,522:	63,291:	-	-
Ceylon.....	1,812:	810,906:	2,485:	:	:	1,269:	894,433:	5,100:	904,185
China.....	2,814:	501,306:	150,000:	-	:	400,000:	-	650,000:	-
French India.....	-	12,994:	-	:	:	-	-	-	-
Hong Kong.....	17,240:	284,834:	16,755:	:	:	828:	521,990:	16,660:	687,582
India 8/.....	860:	1,244,174:	725,551:	:	:	1,677,760:	1,617,280:	450,000:	425,600
Indochina.....	247,261:	83:	-	:	:	-	-	-	-
Indonesia.....	1,458:	433,462:	-	:	:	1,009,202:	1,674,361:	-	789,441
Japan.....	-	386,485:	10,710:	:	:	1,761,072:	2,197,486:	-	2,330,262
Korea.....	39,526:	50,782:	-	:	:	270,000:	430,000:	-	550,000
Macao.....	9,735:	56,074:	-	:	:	-	-	-	-
Malaya.....	21,951:	810,577:	163,550:	:	:	1,281,150:	1,162,460:	97,140:	1,204,517
Pakistan.....	6/ 47,264:	51,221:	9/ 339,302:	:	9/	181,635:	2:	132,845:	-
Philippine Islands.....	-	237,105:	-	:	:	286,265:	139,159:	9,116:	0
Portuguese India.....	-	22,355:	-	:	:	-	17,637:	-	-
Ryukyu Islands.....	-	75,728:	-	:	:	119,489:	-	-	-
Taiwan.....	50,524:	25,126:	227,074:	:	:	232,043:	-	130,938:	11,023
Thailand.....	1,919,197:	-	3,429,388:	:	:	-	3,148,169:	2,945,828:	-
Total Far East 7/.....	4,551,258:	5,116,854:	7,870,702:	8,023,510:	7,608,689:	9,000,882:	6,627,792:	7,256,246:	-
Total Asia.....	4,609,881:	5,256,316:	7,944,961:	8,233,328:	7,652,109:	9,189,923:	6,842,231:	7,449,563:	-
SOUTH AMERICA:									
Argentina.....	6/ 5,212:	6/ 129:	354:	:	:	5,349:	0:	-	-
Bolivia.....	-	17,569:	-	:	:	-	23,529:	-	18,754
Brazil.....	321,078:	-	363,219:	:	:	378,764:	-	6,144:	20,890
British Guiana.....	51,496:	-	67,364:	:	:	61,992:	-	88,032:	-
Chile.....	25,854:	-	3,804:	:	137:	11:	8,959:	12,389:	7,814
Colombia.....	3,718:	5,352:	0:	:	16,300:	25,670:	0:	18,469:	8
Ecuador.....	125,520:	-	15,267:	:	-	124,607:	-	93,650:	-
French Guiana.....	-	1,636:	-	:	1,715:	-	1,845:	-	-
Paraguay.....	227:	178:	661:	:	220:	-	0:	10,000:	0
Peru.....	0:	15,051:	0:	:	58,874:	0:	31,580:	53,000:	0
Surinam.....	10,132:	2/	8,079:	:	2/	19,252:	2/	16,411:	2/
Uruguay.....	12,266:	113:	23,164:	:	-	28,146:	-	33,347:	-
Venezuela.....	-	52,007:	-	:	53,954:	-	5,515:	-	14,650
Total.....	555,503:	92,035:	481,912:	152,666:	643,791:	71,428:	346,442:	63,816:	-

Continued -

AFRICA:									
Algeria.....	275:	6,889:	944:	11,106:	609:	8,344:	-	10,141	
Anglo-Egyptian Sudan.....	181:	8,876:	334:	4,828:	0:	5,344:	-	3,086	
Belgian Congo.....	7,247:	1,582:	4,421:	61:	884:	-	2,127:	-	
Kenya.....	162:	6,402:	812:	16,032:	186:	11,201:	-	-	
Uganda.....	4,786:	1,320:	0:	5,515:	0:	1,962:	-	-	
Tanganyika.....	37:	3,917:	686:	1,005:	750:	2,726:	-	-	
Zanzibar.....	-	2,822:	1,684:	35,682:	1,984:	13,889:	-	-	
British Somaliland.....	-	3,462:	-	4,189:	-	4,189:	-	-	
Cambria.....	88:	23:	195:	8,624:	-	11,312:	-	1,485:	
Sierra Leone.....	-	1,395:	-	1,182:	-	994:	-	-	
Cape Verde Islands.....	548,243:	27:	692,245:	103:	35,290:	97:	1,361:	88	
Egypt.....	-	3,015:	-	14,837:	-	6,354:	-	11,129	
French Cameroons.....	-	3,912:	-	7,939:	-	4,799:	-	2,806	
French Equatorial Africa.....	-	4,810:	339:	4,389:	3,930:	553:	-	1,296	
French Morocco.....	-	1,555:	-	3,086:	-	1,984:	-	-	
French Somaliland.....	-	75,083:	-	133,361:	-	120,140:	-	161,255	
French West Africa.....	-	2:	-	1,537:	-	1,455:	-	789	
French Togoland.....	-	5,612:	-	10,451:	-	3,764:	-	-	
Gold Coast.....	-	3,132:	-	6,614:	-	11,693:	-	4,480	
Liberia.....	-	4,116:	-	-	-	4,947:	-	-	
Libya: Tripolitania.....	-	3,428:	-	216:	89,506:	91,978:	1:	2/	
Madagascar.....	3,688:	6,006:	3,428:	94,721:	-	91,978:	-	72,752	
Mauritius.....	375:	65,265:	-	0:	5,010:	0:	-	48	
Mozambique.....	3,081:	24:	954:	3,231:	318:	198:	-	-	
Nigeria.....	252:	27:	123:	6,930:	18,592:	-	4,114:	-	
Angola.....	10,088:	47:	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Portuguese Guinea.....	3,592:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Sao Tome and Principe.....	-	3,974:	-	4,672:	-	4,625:	-	-	
Reunion.....	-	33,668:	-	66,841:	-	44,304:	-	61,028	
Seychelles Islands.....	-	2,426:	-	5,527:	-	5,297:	-	-	
Southern Rhodesia.....	181:	2,020:	218:	3,557:	91:	2,947:	-	-	
South West Africa.....	-	290:	-	-	-	662:	-	-	
Spanish Guinea.....	-	4,982:	-	4,630:	-	6,173:	-	-	
Spanish Morocco.....	-	4,785:	-	1,323:	-	1,102:	-	-	
Tunisia.....	-	1,420:	-	3,527:	-	661:	-	-	
Union of South Africa.....	707:	27,731:	337:	1,280:	882:	63,147:	-	2,840	
Total 7/.....	583,349:	299,265:	717,190:	482,036:	163,152:	447,712:	115,330:	438,688	

OCEANIA:									
Australia 2/.....	61,257:	146:	56,354:	2:	53,495:	230:	65,000:	-	
New Guinea.....	-	12,302:	-	21,164:	-	16,535:	-	-	
British Solomon Islands.....	-	2,008:	-	3,527:	-	3,086:	-	-	
Fiji.....	-	675:	-	1,232:	-	2,240:	-	-	
French Oceania.....	-	1,996:	-	3,084:	-	3,360:	-	-	
Gilbert and Ellice Isls.....	-	705:	-	1,102:	-	-	-	-	
New Caledonia.....	-	4,739:	-	5,220:	-	5,926:	-	5,022	
New Hebrides.....	-	2,249:	-	2,577:	-	4,570:	-	2,899	
New Zealand.....	2:	3,151:	40:	4,535:	-	5,691:	-	6,170	
Pacific Isls. (U.S. Trust):	-	2,297:	-	1,984:	-	2,205:	-	-	
Western Samoa.....	-	669:	-	939:	-	1,460:	-	-	
Papua.....	-	5,512:	-	8,598:	-	10,803:	-	-	
Total.....	61,259:	36,449:	56,394:	53,964:	53,495:	57,206:	65,000:	57,091	

World total 7/.....: 7,060,045: 6,885,648: 10,965,457: 10,922,007: 11,251,097: 11,085,918: 10,091,762: 9,564,795
 1/ Preliminary. 2/ Less than 500 pounds. 3/ July-June. 4/ October-September. 5/ January-November. 6/ Less than 5-year average. 7/ Including countries not shown. 8/ Includes Pakistan to August 15, 1947. 9/ May-April.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments and reports of United States Foreign Service officers. Includes milled, broken, semimilled unconverted and rough rice in terms of milled. Exports include reexports.

Slightly decreased rice exports in Europe as compared with 1952 are attributed to smaller shipments in the principal exporting countries, as Italy, Spain and Portugal. On the other hand, as a result of expanded production, Greece for the first time exported a relatively large amount. In addition, rice reexports of importing countries generally showed an increase over the preceding year.

Total rice exports in South America were down primarily because of reduced supplies of the country usually having the largest exports. Short supplies in Brazil, because of a poor crop, resulted actually in more rice being imported than was exported. Exports declined also in Ecuador, Surinam, and Colombia. Some countries, however, increased rice exports, as Peru, British Guiana, Argentina, Chile, Uruguay and Paraguay. A further decline in the rice exports of Egypt again reduced the total exports of Africa, despite the fact that exports from Madagascar continued to rise.

Importing countries: Rice imports into the countries of the Far East in 1953 showed a decline of 1,740 million pounds, or 19 percent, as compared with those of the year before. This drop was primarily in the rice imports of India and Indonesia. Japan, again the world's largest importer of rice, increased imports, and more rice was taken also in Ceylon, Malaya, Hong Kong, and Korea.

European countries increased imports, as Austria, Belgium, Germany, Ireland, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom. Rice imports into the Near East are estimated to be larger than in 1952, while those of Africa show a slight decline.

Imports into the deficit countries of North America increased in Cuba, Canada, and some of the British West Indies. Otherwise, the importing countries of Central America and South America showed a continuing tendency toward self-sufficiency and increasing exports.

U. S. TOBACCO EXPORTS IN MAY, 1954

United States exports of unmanufactured tobacco in May, 1954, totaled 28.6 million pounds valued at \$17.6 million. This was 1.0 million pounds higher than in April but 20 percent below May, 1953.

Exports of flue-cured tobacco were 20.6 million pounds in May compared to 31.0 million in May 1953, a 34 percent decrease. Burley showed a substantial increase over May 1953, (4.9 million pounds compared with 1.4 million last year). All other types showed decreases except dark-fired Kentucky-Tennessee and Maryland.

In the first 5 months of the current year, total tobacco leaf exports at 127.3 million pounds were 30 percent below the same period last year. Exports of flue-cured at 97.7 million were off 36 percent but exports of Burley, at 12.9 million pounds, were 74 percent higher than a year earlier. Exports of most other types fell off.

Exports of U. S. Unmanufactured Tobacco, May 1954,
January-May 1954 with Comparisons

Type	(Export Weight)		Jan.-May	
	May			
	1953	1954	1953	1954
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds
Flue-Cured	31,063	20,640	152,275	97,705
Burley	1,499	4,908	7,453	12,959
Virginia Fire-Cured	142	119	1,491	1,314
Dark-Fired Kentucky-Tennessee ..	1,275	1,346	9,183	6,881
Maryland	442	762	2,879	2,822
Green River	46	--	1,034	835
One Sucker	81	13	395	290
Cigar Wrapper	414	184	1,731	1,086
Cigar Binder	224	71	1,484	588
Cigar Filler	28	8	175	155
Other	589	543	2,483	2,673
Total	35,803	28,594	180,583	127,308
Declared value, million				
dollars	24.8	17.6	118.3	80.7

Compiled in Foreign Agricultural Service from records of the Bureau of the Census.

Exports of tobacco products, valued at \$5.5 million, were slightly lower in May 1954 than in the same month last year. All products, with the exception of cigarettes and smoking tobacco in bulk, showed an increase.

Exports of cigarettes and smoking tobacco in packages were lower in the January-May 1954 period than in the same period a year ago. Exports of all other tobacco products were higher.

Exports of U. S. Tobacco Products May 1954,
with Comparisons

Class of Products	May		Jan.-May	
	1953	1954	1953	1954
Cigars and Cheroots				
(1,000 pieces)	596	854	2,149	3,868
Cigarettes (1,000 pieces) ...	1,482,036	1,339,096	7,279,576	6,465,002
Chewing Tobacco and Snuff ..				
(1,000 pounds)	141	150	516	678
Smoking Tobacco in Packages :				
(1,000 pounds)	54	70	285	251
Smoking Tobacco in Bulk :				
(1,000 pounds)	410	379	1,500	1,581
Declared value,				
(million dollars)	5.9	5.5	27.4	25.8

Compiled in the Foreign Agricultural Service from records of the Bureau of the Census.

CHINA INCREASES FLUE-CURED ACREAGE

The American Consulate General at Hong Kong reports that Communist China plans an increase in the acreage of flue-cured tobacco. (No official statement has been issued and none may be issued.) A production increase of 35 percent has been given as a goal by the Chinese press. This would mean the production of 338 to 350 million pounds based on Consulate estimates of 295 million pounds in 1953. (Production goals of most important crops have been met in the past with a fair decree of success.) Plans to increase production of flue-cured tobacco indicate that it is a profitable item for domestic consumption and for export markets.

PORTUGAL'S FIRST QUARTER IMPORTS OF LEAF TOBACCO UP SLIGHTLY

Portugal's imports of unmanufactured tobacco during the first 3 months of 1954 increased slightly to 2,501,000 pounds over the 2,358,000 pounds during the first quarter of 1953. Imports of United States tobacco dropped slightly from 1,797,000 pounds in first quarter of 1953 to 1,765,000 pounds in the first quarter of 1954. During 1953 Portugal imported a total of 10,761,000 pounds, 7,903,000 pounds of which were from the United States.

COTTON CONSUMPTION REMAINS HIGH IN WESTERN GERMANY

Consumption of raw cotton by mills in Western Germany amounted to 101,000 bales (of 500 pounds gross), in April 1954 compared with 96,000 in April 1953, according to A. Schneider, American Consulate, Bremen. Consumption during August-April 1953-54 amounted to 918,000 bales compared with 797,000 for the corresponding period last year, representing an increase of 13 percent.

Imports of cotton in April set a new postwar high of 147,000 bales. Imports during August-April 1953-54 totaled 972,000 bales compared with 800,000 during corresponding months a year ago. The United States share of imports for the period August-April 1953-54 amounted to 257,000 bales or 26 percent of the total. Other major sources of imports, with percentage of total in parentheses, were as follows: Brazil (17), Egypt (10), Mexico (8), Turkey (6), Peru (4), and Belgian Congo (4).

Stocks on hand April 30 were reported at 267,000 bales or 63,000 more than the stocks on hand a year ago. This is the greatest amount of stocks on hand for any one month during the last 3 years and reflects the desire of mill operators to have 3 to 4 months' supply available at all times.

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY: Imports of cotton from major
countries of origin; average 1934-38; annual 1950-52;
August-April 1952-53 and 1953-54

(Equivalent bales of 500 pounds gross)

Country of destination	Year beginning August 1					
	Average:	1950	1951	1952	August-April	
	1934-38:				1952-53	1953-54
	1,000	bales	bales	bales	bales	bales
Argentina.....	49.0:	2.3:	0.4:	8.4:	3.4:	7.9
Belgian Congo.....	12.7:	4.1:	37.5:	75.9:	58.9:	34.5
Brazil.....	284.8:	26.5:	65.0:	.7:	.6:	161.1
British East Africa ...	1/ :	22.3:	35.3:	56.9:	40.6:	22.9
Egypt.....	174.1:	85.8:	58.1:	126.8:	113.3:	101.0
India.....	117.6:	1.9:	4.5:	23.2:	14.8:	5.5
Iran.....	2/ 21.2:	27.8:	11.2:	37.8:	25.0:	28.1
Mexico.....	1/ :	10.9:	18.9:	85.6:	69.1:	82.0
Pakistan.....	1/ :	39.6:	30.5:	92.4:	57.9:	25.4
Peru.....	83.2:	19.7:	9.2:	31.9:	18.0:	43.4
Turkey.....	48.3:	172.5:	131.3:	134.3:	120.3:	62.2
United States.....	300.8:	491.9:	466.4:	275.5:	205.8:	257.4
Other Countries.....	83.3:	24.6:	15.4:	2/ 134.8:	4/ 71.8:	5/ 140.5
Total.....	1.175.0:	929.9:	883.7:	1.084.2:	799.5:	971.9

1/ If any included in other countries. 2/ 4-year average. 3/ El Salvador
21.0, Nicaragua 26.8, Syria 38.5 4/ Nicaragua 15.8, Syria 22.5 5/ Nicaragua
32.3, Syria 37.7, Afghanistan 23.2

Compiled from Der Auswartigo Handel Deutschland and Monathiche Nachweise uber
den Auswaritigen Handel and official reports.

PORK PRICES IN CUBA

Pork prices in Cuba remained practically unchanged in April-June at around the highest levels of the year. However, some price declines were noted in late June and early July, corresponding to price changes in the United States because of the dependence of Cuba on the United States for imported supplies. Cuba is the largest export market for United States pork products.

Prices of 180 pound hogs in Cuba in May were reported at around \$24 per 100 pounds, live weight, but had declined to \$22 by the end of June. Prices continued downward in early July to around \$20 per 100 pounds.

Cuba: Wholesale Prices of Pork Products,
January - June, 1954
(Cents per pound)

Item	Price range Jan.-June	April	May	June
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
Hams, American	79-87	83-87	83-87	82-87
Hams, Cuban	69-77	71-77	74-77	74-77
Shoulder, American	49-67	59-47	64-67	64-67
Shoulder, Cuban	51-54	51-54	54	54
Salt Pork, American	38-42	39-42	39-42	38-40
Salt Pork, Cuban	37-41	38-41	37-39	38
Butts, American	28-43	37-38	36-37	35-36
Butts, Cuban	25-29	29	29	29

Source: Foodstuffs Wholesalers Association, Havana

**COSTA RICA REMOVES BAN ON
EXPORT OF BEEF CATTLE**

A new law, Decree No. 1754, authorizes the export of fattened beef cattle from Costa Rica. Export quotas will be determined by the National Production Council on the basis of statistics provided by the Office of Statistics and Census; and with the advice of one representative from each of the two cattlemen's associations.

The National Production Council will purchase cattle by public bids, and then let bids to exporters having firm offers from abroad. The Council is expected to effect a preliminary export of 1,000 head in the near future. This will require the early publication by the Executive Power of the regulations, in terms of definitions and standards, necessary to implement the decree.

The exportation of all cattle had been prohibited from June 1947 until June 1954 in the effort of Costa Rica to become self-sufficient in livestock and meat production. As little as 7 years ago the country had to import 20 percent of its annual beef supply in the form of young stocker cattle from Nicaragua. These imports ceased in 1951 and now, after work with vaccines and artificial insemination, Costa Rica may become a net exporter of beef cattle.

The small country of Costa Rica has greatly increased production of cattle in recent years. The entire cattle population was estimated at 366,000 head prior to World War II but had reached around 685,000 head in 1951.

IMPORT RATIO ON POWDERED MILK MAY BE REDUCED BY VENEZUELA

The Ministry of Development of Venezuela has announced that protests by milk producers of the Zulia area may require the Government to reduce the ratio of imported dry whole milk to 4 pounds of the imported product to one of the local powder; at present, importers are required to purchase one pound of local powdered whole milk for each 6 pounds they import.

According to Dr. Luis Baldo Casanova, Director of the Ministry, "Indulac", the Nestle-Borden plant producing Venezuelan whole milk powder, under the 1 to 6 ratio is obligated to accept from 170 thousand to 182 thousand pounds of milk daily at its plant at Santa Barbara, Zulia, but that in order to prevent a crisis for producers is accepting 205 thousand pounds. Producers in the milkshed, Dr. Baldo pointed out, are prepared to deliver more than 280 thousand pounds daily. "Indulac" has indicated to both producers and the Government that it already has upwards of \$1 million tied up in powdered milk inventories and will not be able to accept the excess milk offered unless the ratio is reduced.

The ratio system worked out in Venezuela is an alternative to the imposition of import duties. Under the current ratio the importer buys one pound of locally-produced powdered milk for each 6 pounds of powdered milk imported; in this way he is relieved of paying the 6.8 cents per pound duty on the imported product. However, although he pays approximately 78 cents for the local product, the importer can not retail it for more than 49 cents per pound; this loss of 29 cents per pound on the local product amounts to a tax of 4.83 cents per pound on the imported product. It is apparent, therefore, that the ratio cannot go below 1 to 4 since below that figure it would be cheaper for the importers to pay the duty.

The United States, with 35 million pounds, was the primary supplier of powdered whole milk to Venezuela in 1953; this is more than three-fourths of all United States exports.

FINLAND ADJUSTS SUBSIDIES ON DAIRY PRODUCTS

The Finnish Cabinet has decided to maintain present consumer prices of butter and milk despite the decision to abolish certain subsidies on milk transport and distribution. To offset the loss of the distribution subsidies and to make it possible to maintain the over-all price of milk to producers, the Government will increase the subsidy on dairy butter paid to dairies from 3.9 cents per pound to 5.7 cents per pound during the July-December period. The action is primarily a bookkeeping transaction, since neither the consumer nor producer prices will be changed, and is designed to simplify the complicated subsidy system which is a holdover from the war.

AUSTRALIA TO MAINTAIN BUTTER AND CHEESE SUBSIDIES

The Australian Minister for Commerce and Agriculture has announced the Government will continue, through June 30, 1955, the present subsidies on butter and cheese. The decision was recommended by the Dairy Industry Investigation Committee which has recently completed a survey of production costs. In the case of butter, the amount of the subsidy, at slightly more than 10 cents per pound, covers the spread between the cost of the producer and the retail price.

The decision of the Ministry means that the domestic wholesale and retail prices of butter and cheese will remain the same for the next 12 months as it appears highly unlikely that Government price ceilings on these items will be removed or increased.

Export prices are, of course, subject to change. At the present time, the prices under the Australian-United Kingdom contract are under discussion for the period July 1, 1954 through June 30, 1955. Price details on the New Zealand-United Kingdom contact, which was recently terminated were published in Foreign Crops and Markets of July 19, 1954.

VENEZUELA HATCHING DOMESTIC EGGS

Venezuela's major poultry raisers association spokesman recently stated that by the end of this year local hatcheries in Caracas and Maracaibo would be producing 100,000 baby chicks monthly. This figure seems high because the local industry is presently having difficulty obtaining 20,000 eggs weekly from pullorum free flocks. If this goal is obtained it will represent 19 percent of Venezuela's present import license quota for each quarter of 1,600,000 chicks.

COLOMBIA REFUSES TO IMPORT FRESH EGGS AND FROZEN POULTRY

The Colombian Ministry of Agriculture recently announced it was refusing to approve import license applications for fresh eggs and frozen poultry. The reason, given was the danger of introducing poultry virus diseases. Poultry breeding stock however is still allowed entry and just recently the Colombian government placed an order in the United States for 200,000 hatching eggs.

CUBA PERMITTING FREE IMPORTATION OF FRESH HEN EGGS

In an effort to forestall a seasonal market shortage of fresh eggs in the deficit locations of Cuba the Government on July 2, 1954 published Decree No. 1825 in the Cuba Official Gazette No. 152 of July 2 authorizing the importation into Cuba of fresh hen eggs exempt from payment of consular fees and other duties and taxes until January 15, 1955 except for the gross sales tax regulated by Decree No. 5122 of December 2, 1949.

U.S. BEAN EXPORTS OFF 28 PERCENT IN FIRST
9 MONTHS OF CURRENT MARKETING SEASON

Exports of United States beans for the first 9 months of the current marketing year, September 1, 1953 through May 1954, totaled 1.9 million bags. This was 724,000 bags, or 28 percent less than the first 9 months of the previous season.

The major drop was in the census classification "other beans", i.e., colored beans other than red kidney. The bulk of this category of exports probably was pintos and red beans. Total exports of these were off by 685,000 bags, while exports of white beans were off about 78,000 bags. Exports of red kidney beans were up 35,000 bags.

The major market involved in the decrease of "other beans" exported was Mexico, which took only 327,000 bags in the first 9 months of the current season, compared with 1,056,000 bags a year ago, a decrease of 69 percent. The reduction of exports to Mexico was significant for reasons other than quantity involved. It indicates a possible turn toward self-sufficiency in beans. Prior to mid-1951, Mexico produced nearly all the beans consumed in that country. Latest reports from there, however, indicate current shortages of supplies and suggest that shortages may continue until the 1954 major Mexican harvest gets well under way. The major harvest normally begins about August and continues through December. Improved weather conditions this season and increased acreage planted to beans points to a larger 1954 harvest than in the recent drought years when United States exports to Mexico reached high levels.

Exports were off in other markets also in the past 9 months. They were off to Cuba by 115,000 bags, to the Netherlands by 141,000 bags, and to Germany 111,000 bags. United States exports to these 4 major markets, including Mexico, totaled 2.1 million bags in the 9-month period last season, and only 1,017,000 bags this season for a total decrease of over 1 million bags, or about 50 percent.

Partially offsetting this decrease, however, was an increase of 409,000 bags to the United Kingdom, 40,000 bags to Greece, and 4,000 bags to Yugoslavia.

Now that the 1953-54 marketing season is nearing the end, it might be noted that United States exports of beans in the final quarter usually have been fairly substantial. In the final quarter of 1952-53 United States exports totaled 700,000 bags. Following are total United States bean exports for the final quarter (June, July and August) of the past several marketing years:

(1,000 bags)

1946..... 108
1947..... 200
1948..... 163
1949..... 240

1950..... 322
1951..... 745
1952..... 597
1953..... 704

BEANS, DRY: Exports from the United States,
by country of destination, September-May, 1953-4 with comparisons

in 1,000 - 100 pound bags)

Country of destination	Red Kidney			White			Seed, All Types:				Other			Total		
	1952- 53	1953- 54	1954- 55	1952- 53	1953- 54	1954- 55	1952- 53	1953- 54	1954- 55	1955- 56	1952- 53	1953- 54	1954- 55	1955- 56	1956- 57	1957- 58
Canada.....	3	1	72	23	40	1	7	6	2	8	35	1,056	595	33	87	
Mexico.....	10	4	86	66	10	1	1	9	979	274	1,056	595	33	87	327	
Cuba.....	186	159	8	185	10	1	1	1	224	234	5	14	26	8	480	
Venezuela.....	3	8	9	18	36	0	0	0	1	0	8	149	37	413	172	
Philippines, Rep. of	1	2	36	7	4	1	2	1	0	1	4	86	37	413	172	
Germany, West.....	0	36	413	149	163	11	1	9	0	1	313	58	27	105	33	
Venezuela.....	-	-	4	84	24	1	1	1	0	1	66	119	25	10	1	
United Kingdom.....	-	-	302	4	105	33	1	1	0	4	8	31	72			
Netherlands.....	-	3	58	302	163	11	1	9	0	1	313	58	27	105	33	
Belgium.....	-	-	66	66	105	33	1	1	0	4	8	31	72			
Greece.....	-	-	119	25	10	1	1	1	0	1	313	58	27	105	33	
Israel & Palestine..	-	-	10	10	10	1	1	1	0	1	313	58	27	105	33	
Italy.....	-	-	10	10	10	1	1	1	0	1	313	58	27	105	33	
Spain.....	-	-	10	10	10	1	1	1	0	1	313	58	27	105	33	
France.....	-	-	10	10	10	1	1	1	0	1	313	58	27	105	33	
Other countries.....	8	31	33	15	33	33	1	4	8	4	31	72				
Total.....	210	245	1,044	1,122	1,044	28	32	1,219	534	2,579	1,855					

1/ Less than 500 bags.

Compiled from official records of the Bureau of the Census.

SPRING-SOWN ACREAGE INCREASES IN THE SOVIET UNION

A decree of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the U.S.S.R. of June 24 announced that the 1954 spring-sown acreage exceeded that of last year by 23.5 million acres.

The acreage under spring grains increased by 15,886,000 acres. The spring wheat area alone increased by 8,854,000 acres; corn planted for grain by 1,868,000 acres; cotton 875,000 acres; and potatoes by 208,000 acres, though the planned acreage goal for the last named crop was not fulfilled. Unspecified increases were reported also for sugar beets, sunflower seed (which is the most important oil seed crop in the U.S.S.R.), vegetables and various forage and silage crops.

The total increase of 23.5 million acres in the spring acreage includes 8.9 million acres sown mostly to spring wheat and some millets on the uncultivated land of the semi-arid Eastern regions of the Soviet Union beyond the Volga and the Urals. This expansion took place in accordance with the new program announced by the Soviet Government earlier in the year. Despite the late spring, the expansion in the Eastern regions exceeded the official goal of 5.7 million acres set for the current season. However, official complaints were voiced about instances of inferior tillage and poor land used, (alkaline soils in some cases). These factors may affect adversely grain yields that usually are light in this zone of mostly light precipitation and frequent droughts, and of a short growing season. But the possibility of a good crop during the first year of tillage cannot be ruled out.

Notwithstanding expansion in the Eastern regions and also the possible conversion to crops, in accordance with Government policy, of the plowed or summer fallow and in the more humid regions, the large increase reported in the spring-sown acreage probably does not represent in its entirety a net addition to the total crop acreage for the 1954 harvest.

In the first place, some of the increase in the spring-sown acreage may represent a replanting of the winter-killed grain and perennial grasses which might have been above normal because of the severe winter in many regions of the Soviet Union. However, there have been no official Soviet reports concerning this matter. In the second place, the increase of the spring-sown acreage may be due to the replanting with grain, especially feedgrains, of the low-yielding perennial grasses in many of the more arid regions. This was officially recommended earlier this year by the Soviet Government, which reversed its former policy of pushing perennial grasses in crop rotation even in regions where low yields of hay were obtained.

Thus, when all these factors are taken into account, the increase in the total acreage for the 1954 harvest, while probably substantial and above that of last year, is likely to be less than the reported increase of 23.5 million acres in the spring-sown area alone. The total sown area (winter and spring crops) for the 1953 harvest was 388 million acres and 3.5 million acres above that of 1952.

A further expansion of wheat acreage (particularly of durum wheat), is indicated by the reported increase of 8,854,000 acres in the spring wheat area. It may have been offset, however, by some reduction in the winter wheat acreage, which constitutes more than one-third of the total Russian wheat area. The 1953 total wheat (spring and winter) acreage was reported as nearly 20 million acres above prewar (1940) or 119 million acres.

The reported increase of 875,000 acres, or more than 10 percent in the cotton area, is significant because most of it apparently took place in the irrigated regions where yields are generally high, though salinity has presented a serious problem. Uzbek Republic, the principal Soviet cotton-growing region, accounted for nearly 500,000 acres of this expansion. Some of the increase in cotton acreage this year, however, may have been to replace cotton acreage possibly taken out of cultivation in the so-called new non-irrigated regions of the European part of the Soviet Union, where yields have been very low.

The crop situation in the U.S.S.R. during June and early July was spotty. In some regions good growing conditions had offset the unfavorable consequences of the late spring and delayed planting. In other regions, crops were adversely affected by dryness. The usual seasonal complaints of poor tillage, delayed sowings and non-fulfillment of planned acreage goals, breakdown and stoppages of tractors and slow preparation for the harvest again appeared in the Soviet press. Abnormally high temperatures in a number of regions speeded up the maturity of crops and complicated the harvest situation.

The above-mentioned decree of June 24 provided for an unspecified decrease of the compulsory deliveries of grain and oil seeds by collective farms, at very low fixed prices, to the state. The Government is to purchase additional grain and oilseeds from the collectives at higher prices but the extent of the price increase was not specified. Thus, a step was taken to increase economic incentives for grain production, which is the backbone of Russian agriculture, but the degree to which this has been done cannot be gaged in the present state of information. Measures of a similar character were taken last fall with respect to potatoes, vegetables and livestock.

U.S. FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL TRADE IN MAY, 1954

Export Highlights

Farm exports maintained strong position in May. United States agricultural exports in May 1954 totaled \$253 million; they exceeded the value for May 1953 (\$222 million) by 14 percent. This gain followed one of 15 percent in April of this year over April 1953. Exports for the July-May period of 1953-54 aggregated \$2,664 million, nearly 2 percent above the \$2,622 million recorded for this period of 1952-53.

Foreign demand for U. S. cotton continued heavy. Cotton remained the principal commodity supporting the rising trend in agricultural exports thus far in 1954. Cotton shipments in May totaled 347 thousand bales, an increase of 28 percent over shipments in May 1953 when they amounted to 272 thousand bales. May cotton exports, however, were 20 percent below the 434 thousand bales moved out in April of this year.

An important factor in the drop was the strike of warehouse workers at Galveston. July-May exports of cotton amounting to 3,340 thousand bales in 1953-54 ran 16 percent ahead of the 2,878 thousand bales shipped out in the comparable period of 1952-53. The active movement of cotton abroad since January has been due to relatively low United States prices, record foreign consumption, low stocks in consuming countries, and depleted supplies in exporting countries. Recent sales of cotton have picked up as "futures" prices increased to "spot" levels.

March-to-April increase in wheat exports continued into May. Exports of wheat and flour rose further in May from the low levels prevailing earlier this year. The May total of 26 million bushels compared with 21 million bushels in April and 15 million bushels in March. A year ago May exports totaled 21 million bushels. Gains in wheat shipments in the past 2 months have reflected larger takings by Japan, Yugoslavia, Western Germany, and Spain for the most part, but both Israel and the United Kingdom took some for the first time in 1954. Total United States wheat exports in the July-May period were about 200 million bushels in 1953-54 as compared with 307 million bushels during this period in 1952-53, a decline of 35 percent. Shipments in both of the past 2 years were on a lower level than in earlier postwar years because of increased foreign production and reduced demand. Some of the world market formerly supplied by the United States and other exporting members of the International Wheat Agreement was lost to non-IWA exporters.

Tobacco exports in May showed small gain over April. Shipments totaling 29 million pounds in May 1954 compared with 27 million in April and 36 million in May 1953. The July-May total of 430 million pounds in 1953-54 ran about 20 million pounds above a year earlier. Larger purchases of flue-cured tobacco by the United Kingdom in 1953-54 was the major factor in the year's gain over 1952-53.

Section 550 sales of lard to the United Kingdom and Yugoslavia were prominent in larger May exports. After running below a year earlier for several months, lard exports in April rose to those of April 1953, and those in May ran 50 percent above a year earlier. The May total of 51 million pounds compared with 41 million pounds in April and 34 million pounds in May 1953. A considerable part of the gain in May 1954 was due to sales to the United Kingdom and Yugoslavia under Section 550.

Sales of CCC-held cottonseed oil and peanuts continued to aid exports. Additional shipments were made in May of cottonseed oil and peanuts from CCC-held stocks. Cottonseed oil exports of 58 million pounds in May 1954 compared with 5 million pounds a year earlier; principal takers in May of this year were the United Kingdom and the Netherlands. Exports of peanuts this May totaled 12 million pounds as compared with less than 1 million a year earlier; Israel and the United Kingdom were the principal destinations.

UNITED STATES: Summary of exports, domestic, of selected
agricultural commodities and groups during May 1953 and 1954

Commodity exported	Unit:	May			
		Quantity		Value	
		1953	1954	1953	1954
		Thousands:	Thousands:	dollars	dollars
ANIMAL PRODUCTS:					
Cheese	Lb. :	239	347	123	144
Milk, condensed	Lb. :	2,718	96	677	32
Milk, evaporated	Lb. :	13,439	12,312	2,113	1,789
Milk, whole, dried	Lb. :	3,394	5,729	1,813	2,973
Nonfat dry milk solids	Lb. :	8,021	16,896	955	1,649
Eggs, in the shell	Doz. :	3,219	2,158	1,695	933
Beef and veal, total 1/	Lb. :	1,965	1,248	457	337
Pork, total 1/	Lb. :	6,392	3,658	1,488	1,301
Other meats 1/	Lb. :	6,553	6,738	2,006	1,889
Lard	Lb. :	33,841	50,908	4,014	8,308
Tallow, edible and inedible	Lb. :	84,571	73,001	4,935	5,905
VEGETABLE PRODUCTS:					
Cotton, unmd., excl. linters (480 lb.):	Bale:	272	347	47,935	63,753
Apples, fresh	Lb. :	5,941	7,058	461	542
Grapefruit, fresh	Lb. :	13,711	17,790	570	619
Oranges and tangerines	Lb. :	104,372	113,774	3,860	6,041
Pears, fresh	Lb. :	153	299	24	32
Prunes, dried	Lb. :	5,981	1,903	988	361
Raisins and currants	Lb. :	3,669	26,524	456	1,894
Fruits, canned	Lb. :	12,465	25,467	2,000	3,621
Fruit juices	Gal.:	2,538	2,748	2,249	2,511
Barley, grain (48 lb.)	Bu. :	661	564	1,267	709
Barley, malt (34 lb.)	Bu. :	403	308	1,005	724
Corn, grain (56 lb.)	Bu. :	12,447	7,058	21,902	11,848
Grain sorghums (56 lb.)	Bu. :	722	1,023	1,539	1,180
Rice, milled, excludes paddy	Lb. :	59,357	95,275	7,063	8,415
Wheat, grain (60 lb.)	Bu. :	16,149	21,526	34,055	39,410
Flour, wholly of U.S. wheat (100 lb.)	Bag :	1,217	1,192	5,776	5,471
Flour, not wholly of U.S. wheat (100 lb.):	Bag :	407	100	2,063	457
Hops	Lb. :	890	583	651	334
Nuts and preparations	Lb. :	782	12,771	281	1,510
Soybeans, except canned (60 lb.) ..	Bu. :	2,730	1,628	8,394	6,313
Soybean oil, crude, refined, etc.	Lb. :	3,508	2,781	541	441
Cottonseed oil, crude, refined, etc.	Lb. :	5,334	58,425	876	7,268
Seeds, field and garden	Lb. :	590	2,610	219	358
Tobacco, flue-cured	Lb. :	31,063	20,639	21,399	13,515
Tobacco, leaf, other	Lb. :	4,637	7,935	3,371	4,044
Beans, dried	Lb. :	15,638	16,622	1,246	1,345
Peas, dried	Lb. :	3,122	3,045	277	257
Potatoes, white	Lb. :	36,080	28,750	726	754
Vegetables, fresh, other	Lb. :	110,146	93,298	4,503	4,610
Vegetables, canned	Lb. :	11,089	8,427	1,281	1,121
Food exported for relief, etc.				391	8,009
Other agricultural commodities				24,170	29,866
TOTAL AGRICULTURAL				221,815	252,593
TOTAL ALL COMMODITIES				1,441,111	1,386,049

1/ Product weight.

Compiled from official records, Bureau of the Census

**UNITED STATES: Summary of imports for consumption
of selected agricultural commodities and groups during May 1953 and 1954**

Commodity imported	Unit	May			
		Quantity		Value	
		1953	1954	1953	1954
SUPPLEMENTARY				1,000	1,000
ANIMALS AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS:		Thousands:	Thousands:	dollars	dollars
Cattle, dutiable	No.	16	14	1,640	2,579
Cattle, free (for breeding)	No.	2	2	681	377
Casein and lactarene	Lb.	6,407	4,760	792	722
Cheese	Lb.	4,944	4,236	1,956	2,143
Hides and skins	Lb.	17,065	13,547	7,692	6,418
Beef and veal, total 1/	Lb.	11,130	8,018	3,659	2,342
Pork, total 1/	Lb.	15,968	16,714	10,138	12,967
Wool, unmf., excl. free, etc.	Lb.	23,154	16,084	16,977	12,850
VEGETABLE PRODUCTS:					
Cotton, unmf., excl. lintens (480 lb.)	Bale	16	12	2,683	2,429
Jute and jute butts, unmf. (2,240 lb.)	Ton	10	5	1,750	1,208
Olives in brine	Gal.	1,542	976	2,309	1,980
Pineapples, prep. or preserved	Lb.	14,395	6,300	1,843	722
Other fruits and preparations		2/	2/	3,343	3,206
Barley, grain (48 lb.)	Bu.	2,388	3,679	3,768	4,282
Oats, grain (32 lb.)	Bu.	6,525	6,591	4,870	4,726
Wheat and flour (grain equiv. 60 lb.)	Bu.	1,474	1,285	3,080	2,292
Feeds and fodders		2/	2/	3,940	3,312
Nuts and preparations		2/	2/	4,221	3,128
Castor beans	Lb.	7,058	17,537	611	779
Copra	Lb.	37,767	55,453	4,134	4,399
Oils, fats, waxes, veg. expressed ..	Lb.	48,078	30,451	9,768	5,640
Sugar, cane (2,000 lb.)	Ton	384	388	42,786	42,949
Molasses, unfit for human consumption	Gal.	35,550	58,970	2,658	6,125
Tobacco, cigarette leaf	Lb.	6,539	6,814	4,229	4,625
Tobacco, other leaf	Lb.	1,292	1,111	1,981	1,660
Seeds, field and garden		2/	2/	649	722
Potatoes, white	Lb.	8,998	20,138	178	335
Tomatoes, natural state	Lb.	1,042	1,904	75	142
Other supplementary				17,255	14,254
Total supplementary				159,666	149,313
COMPLEMENTARY					
Silk, raw	Lb.	502	464	2,399	2,169
Wool, unmf., free in bond	Lb.	15,099	13,469	7,263	6,723
VEGETABLE PRODUCTS:					
Bananas	Bunch	4,901	3,843	6,707	5,312
Coffee (ex. into Puerto Rico)	Lb.	164,927	144,723	87,485	106,346
Cocoa or cacao beans	Lb.	63,825	26,804	17,390	15,048
Tea	Lb.	7,943	13,984	3,440	8,125
Spices (complementary)	Lb.	7,925	5,347	5,131	3,592
Sisal and henequen (2,240 lb.)	Ton	14	10	3,524	1,879
Rubber, crude	Lb.	125,721	125,403	29,106	21,401
Other complementary				8,494	7,066
Total complementary				170,939	177,661
TOTAL AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES				330,605	326,974
TOTAL ALL COMMODITIES				890,946	829,731

1/ Product weight.

2/ Value only.

Compiled from official records, Bureau of the Census

U. S. rice exports were maintained by Japan's takings. Commercial and military shipments of rice in May 1954 of 995 thousand bags compared with 1,047 thousand bags in May a year earlier. Commercial shipments alone, as shown in the accompanying table, were 60 percent larger than a year earlier. For the July-May period of both 1952-53 and 1953-54, commercial and military exports approximated 15 million bags: Shipments to Japan were nearly doubled; those to Cuba were slightly larger; while those to Korea, the Ryukyu Islands, Indonesia, and Ceylon were sharply reduced. Korea and the Ryukyu Islands were the principal recipients of military shipments last year.

Tallow exports remained at high level in May. The May 1954 total of 73 million pounds compared with 70 million pounds in April and with 85 million pounds in May 1953. Higher prices were responsible for the increase in value. May exports were below those of a year earlier for the third successive month. Smaller takings by Japan in May were due to that country's stringent dollar situation. Offsetting increases occurred for a number of other countries.

Corn exports were steady at reduced level. Corn exports declined from 12 million bushels in May 1953 to 7 million bushels in May 1954, a drop of 43 percent. However, shipments for several months have been fairly steady although considerably below the high levels attained last fall when Western Europe was in the market for large quantities of United States corn. Important countries taking corn in recent months have been the United Kingdom, Belgium, Western Germany, Austria, Canada, and Mexico. Shipments to Mexico, however, dropped sharply in May as compared with earlier months this year.

Import Highlights

Agricultural imports continued to fall in May 1954. Agricultural imports of \$327 million in May 1954 compared with \$331 million in May a year earlier. Decreases for competitive products were partly offset by gains for noncompetitive products. In both years May imports were seasonally smaller than those in April. For the July-May period, imports in 1953-54 amounted to \$3,626 million, as compared with \$3,805 million for the like period of 1952-53, a reduction of 5 percent.

May decline was in supplementary (competitive) imports. Competitive imports declined from \$160 million in May 1953 to \$149 million in May 1954. Largely responsible for the decline were smaller imports of apparel wool and vegetable fats and oils; there were minor decreases for beef and veal, cotton, jute, olives, wheat and flour, feeds and fodders, and nuts. A major offsetting increase occurred in imports of molasses not for human consumption; other increases were in pork, barley grain, and copra.

May imports of complementary (noncompetitive) products gained slightly in value. Noncompetitive agricultural imports increased from \$171 million in May 1953 to \$178 million in May 1954. The gain reflected mainly higher prices for coffee imported in May this year, but there were larger imports of tea. These increases were largely offset by declines in imports of crude rubber, sisal and henequen, spices, cacao beans, bananas, carpet wool, and silk.

Higher coffee prices enlarged complementary import value; coffee imports were smaller in quantity. The average value per pound of coffee imported in May 1954 was 74 cents; this value compared with 53 cents for May 1953. The quantity of coffee imported fell from 165 million pounds in May 1953 to 145 million pounds in May 1954, a decline of 12 percent. On the other hand, the value of coffee imported increased from \$87 million to \$106 million. Coffee imports are seasonally smaller in May than in the earlier months of the year.

U.S. COTTON EXPORTS DOWN IN MAY BUT STILL HEAVY

Exports of cotton from the United States in May, amounting to 347,000 bales of 500 pounds (336,000 running bales), represented a decrease (partly seasonal) of 20 percent from the April figure. The total of 3,220,000 bales (3,094,000 running bales) for August-May 1953-54, however, was 14 percent above the comparable total for last year.

This decline from April to May may be attributed in part to a strike of compress and warehouse workers at Galveston, Texas, that lasted from May 7 to July 6. Other factors that may have had a bearing are (1) evidence that importers abroad are still reluctant to rebuild their stocks of United States cotton to normal working levels, (2) arrivals of foreign-grown cotton, especially American-type, in most importing countries have been heavy in recent months resulting in some excess of imports over consumption, (3) availability of 1953-54 (new crop) Southern Hemisphere cotton, especially Brazilian, since early April at prices slightly below those for United States cotton, and (4) uncertainty regarding the amount and terms for United States cotton that might be made available by proposed legislation under consideration in the Congress at that time.

Trade statistics (partly estimated) published by the New York Cotton Exchange indicate that exports during June and the first half of July were at a high rate. This was due partly to the large amount of cotton involved in delayed shipment under the foreign-aid program. The export total for the year ending July 31, 1954, is now expected to reach approximately 3-3/4 million running bales.

The principal factors on which further improvements in export trade next season are based include expected continuation of high level of world cotton consumption, a reduction of around 1.5 million bales in stocks in foreign exporting countries compared with August 1, 1953, a small reduction of stocks in importing countries, and the possible effect of important export promotion programs now being formulated by United States Government agencies.--
By Charles H. Barber.

(Table on next page)

UNITED STATES: Exports of cotton by countries of destination, averages
1935-39 and 1945-49; annual 1951 and 1952;
August-May 1952-53 and 1953-54

(Bales of 500 pounds gross)

Country of destination	Year beginning August 1					
	Averages		1951	1952	August-May	
	1935-39	1945-49			1952-53	1953-54
	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales
Austria.....	0	1/ 36	32	47	40	33
Belgium-Luxembourg.....	169	131	317	73	68	62
Czechoslovakia.....	65	57	0	0	0	0
Denmark.....	33	14	34	34	30	20
Finland.....	35	21	33	4	4	10
France.....	662	575	309	507	475	395
Germany.....	511	340	447	241	216	342
Italy.....	442	489	560	272	246	195
Netherlands.....	107	131	197	79	71	93
Norway.....	17	7	15	11	11	12
Poland and Danzig.....	180	69	0	0	0	0
Portugal.....	36	2/	21	1	1	0
Spain.....	108	69	203	77	65	110
Sweden.....	115	12	100	36	35	40
Switzerland.....	11	26	99	28	27	22
United Kingdom.....	1,346	488	662	359	340	338
Yugoslavia.....	17	47	122	86	72	35
Other Europe.....	31	3/ 33	6	6	4	6
	3,885	2,545	3,157	1,861	1,705	1,713
Canada.....	301	275	296	284	261	198
Chile.....	9	20	35	1	1	22
Colombia.....	20	24	53	35	34	6
Cuba.....	11	16	20	12	10	14
India.....	52	86	778	45	38	142
China.....	117	401	0	0	0	0
French Indochina.....	22	6	24	18	18	14
Indonesia.....	2/	5	14	17	15	19
Japan.....	1,142	585	1,095	691	548	833
Korea, Republic of.....	4/	5/ 48	55	41	33	83
Taiwan (Formosa).....	4/	1	53	107	106	87
Australia.....	9	7	50	11	10	36
Other countries.....	21	46	6/ 81	7/ 58	50	53
Total.....	5,589	4,065	5,711	3,181	2,829	3,220

Compiled from official records of the Bureau of the Census.

1/ Four-year average. 2/ Less than 500 bales. 3/ Includes Greece 21. 4/ If any, included in "Other countries." 5/ Three-year average. 6/ Mostly countries in Asia (35) and Africa (25). 7/ Israel 14, Republic of Philippines 16.

FRANCE REPORTS

LARGE WHEAT CROP

France's 1954 wheat production is forecast at 327 million bushels, according to the July 1 crop situation report recently released by the Ministry of Agriculture. This is about the same as the 1953 harvest, which was the largest since 1938. Production at this level assures fairly sizable export availabilities in 1954-55 as in recent years.

The current forecast is about 6 percent above the June 1 forecast and current thinking is that if recent favorable weather in northern France continues, the final outcome may well exceed last year's outturn. Much will depend on conditions during the latter part of the growing season. The season is generally late and the wheat harvest will be one to 3 weeks later than usual.

The area for the current harvest is estimated at 11 million acres, which is well above the average of recent years, though sharply reduced from the level of the 'twenties and' thirties. The current estimate is about 600,000 acres larger than the 1953 acreage. Less favorable growing conditions thus far bring yield prospects below those of a year ago. Dry, cold weather this spring and summer, especially in northern areas is the principal factor in the lower yields. Some damage was also caused by cold weather in February and hail in some local areas where yields are normally high.

U. K. MINISTRY OF FOOD SELLING
STOCKS OF OILSEEDS AND OILS

The British Ministry of Food is selling its stocks of fats and oils in view of the termination of bulk buying and other controls in the industry, reports William Kling, Assistant Agricultural Attache, American Embassy, London. The Ministry has issued the following announcement (Press Notice 21454T of July 12) describing an invitation for bids:

"As part of the process of disposing of its stocks the Ministry of Food is inviting bids from any buyer for the following oils and oilseeds for delivery from August 1st:

"Oilseeds and Nuts

Cottonseed, undelinted
Groundnuts, decorticated
Palm Kernels

Crude Oils

Coconut
Cotton, washed
Groundnut
Palm, edible
Palm, technical
Palm, kernel
Whale, No. 1

"Oilseeds will normally be sold ex store in bags, and oils ex tank in bulk. Terms of payment will be net cash against Delivery Order. Other terms and conditions will, except by agreement in individual cases, be in accordance with normal commercial contracts for the various materials.

"Samples, and information about delivery points, can be obtained from the Ministry of Food, Oils and Fats Division, London Road, Stanmore, Middlesex, to whom all bids and enquires should be addressed."

CUBAN LARD IMPORTS UP 16 PERCENT IN SECOND QUARTER

Cuban imports of lard and rendered pork fat during the second quarter of 1954 totaled 32,406,000 pounds, reports C. E. Davis, Economic Attache, American Embassy, Havana. While this quantity reflects a 16 percent increase from the corresponding quarter in 1953, it is considerably less than that imported in 1952 when Cuba imported a record quantity of lard and rendered pork fat.

CUBA: Imports of lard and rendered pork fat,
by quarters, 1951 to April-June 1954

(Million pounds)

Quarter	: 1951	: 1952	: 1953	: 1954
January-March.....	49.8	59.5	38.5	39.1
April-June.....	25.5	36.1	27.8	32.4
July-September.....	31.6	35.6	37.4	-
October-December.....	39.1	44.1	31.5	-
Total.....	146.0	175.3	135.2	-

Source: American Embassy, Havana.

Wholesale prices of imported lard dropped toward the end of the April-June quarter of 1954. Wholesale prices per hundred pounds of imported lard for the 3-month period April-June 1954, as reported by the Foodstuffs Wholesalers Association of Havana, were: \$26.62-\$29.58 in April, \$26.62-\$27.61 in May, and \$24.89-\$27.36 in June.

Virtually all imports of lard and rendered pork fat come from the United States. Commercial hog slaughter in Cuba continues to be relatively small.

SIERRA LEONE PALM KERNEL EXPORTS DOWN

Sierra Leone exports of palm kernels in 1953 totaled 77,172 short tons, or about 10 percent less than the 85,540 tons exported in 1952, reports Adolph Dubs, American Embassy, Monrovia. Exports of palm oil are small and amounted to only 405 tons last year. Peanut exports were up, totaling 3,008 tons, as compared with 2,400 tons in 1952. About 700 tons of sesame seed and 222,656 coconuts also were exported in 1953.

Production of palm kernels in Sierra Leone is roughly equal to exports. The 1953 output of palm oil, estimated at 33,500 tons, is approximately the same as in 1952. Peanut production was reported at 8,400 tons, or slightly larger than in 1952 when 8,200 tons were produced.

IMPROVEMENT IN ITALIAN COTTON INDUSTRY CONTINUES

Increased imports of raw cotton by Italy in March 1954, accompanied by accelerated activity in the textile industry since February, show evidence of the gradual recovery of the industry from the slump which started in late 1952, according to R. W. Tucker, American Consulate General, Milan. Imports of 36,000 bales (500 pounds gross) in March 1954 were considerably below imports of 68,000 bales in March 1953, but were higher than in any month of the current crop year thus far.

Imports during August-March 1953-54 totaled 467,000 bales or 11 percent less than imports of 524,000 bales in the similar period of 1952-53. Principal sources of this year's cotton, with comparable 1952-53 figures in parentheses were: United States 157,000 (298,000); Egypt 79,000 (122,000); Turkey 63,000 (36,000); Brazil 52,000 (none); and Pakistan 48,000 (11,000).

Consumption of raw cotton in March 1954 amounted to 80,000 bales as compared with 72,000 in March 1953. Trade reports indicate that consumption in April was at the March level. Mill stocks of 268,000 bales on March 31, 1954, were considerably below stocks of 343,000 held a year earlier. Stocks of United States cotton were 21,000 bales as against 39,000 for the earlier date.

Improvement in the textile industry is evident in the output of cotton yarns--15,000 metric tons in March 1954 as compared with 14,000 in March 1953. Production of fabrics in March was the highest attained since October 1952, amounting to 10,000 tons in March 1954 against 9,500 in March 1953. The March production index of 137 (1938 equals 100) for the cotton textile industry was considerably above the index of 131 for all textile production. This is the 4th consecutive month that the cotton index has exceeded the all-textile index.

THE NETHERLANDS INCREASES COTTON IMPORTS

Cotton imports into the Netherlands amounted to 34,000 bales (500 pounds gross) in April 1954, or 24 percent higher than imports in April 1953, to continue the level of recent months, according to George J. Dietz, Agricultural Attache, American Embassy, The Hague. Imports for the 9-month period August-April 1953-54 amounted to 260,000 bales, 14 percent above imports of 229,000 bales for the similar period of 1952-53.

Imports from the United States increased to 12,000 bales in March 1954 and 13,000 in April, but low imports for December through February result in a much lower share of this year's imports by the Netherlands than for the corresponding period of 1952-53. Imports from the United States were 30 percent of the August-April 1953-54 total as against 50 percent of the comparable total for 1952-53.

NETHERLANDS: Imports of cotton from major countries of origin;
average 1935-39; annual 1950-52; August-April
1952-53 and 1953-54

(Equivalent bales of 500 pounds gross)

Country of origin	Year beginning August 1					
	Average					August-April
	1/1935-39	1950	1951	1952	1952-53	1953-54
	: 1,000	: 1,000	: 1,000	: 1,000	: 1,000	: 1,000
	: bales	: bales	: bales	: bales	: bales	: bales
Argentina.....	7	10	0	5	1	15
Belgian Congo.....	28	34	27	50	39	30
Brazil.....	23	8	12	0	2/	10
Egypt.....	5	21	7	21	12	16
India and Pakistan.....	39	11	3	20	15	11
Mexico.....	3/	4	1	12	10	57
Peru.....	9	5	3	16	12	10
United States.....	96	176	185	133	116	79
Other Countries.....	28	3	6	4/ 39	24	5/ 32
Total.....	235	272	244	296	229	260

1/ Calendar years. 2/ If any, included in "Other Countries". 3/ Less than 500 bales. 4/ Includes 13,000 bales from British East Africa. 5/ Burma 7,000 bales; Turkey 5,000.

Compiled from Jaarstatistiek van den in, uit-en Doorvoer, Nederland Maandstatistiek van den in, uit-en Doorvoer and official reports.

Consumption by cotton mills in the Netherlands during February-April 1954 amounted to 77,000 bales (including cotton waste) compared with 71,000 for the similar quarter of 1953. Stocks on hand April 30 apparently were lower than at the beginning of the quarter or on August 1, 1953. They cannot be estimated accurately, however, because mill stock and consumption figures include considerable quantities of cotton waste, and port stocks include sizeable amounts of raw cotton to be transshipped to other countries.

Cotton prices firmed slightly during the February-April quarter, with United States cotton being quoted at a more competitive level than in preceding periods. Quotations for United States cotton were somewhat below Mexican, Peruvian, and Egyptian prices for similar quality lots. The Brazilian price was under the United States price, but the quality was lower.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN DAIRY PRODUCTS UP IN 1953 1/

International trade in dairy products during 1953 showed an increase of more than 5 percent over 1952 with only canned milk products showing an export decline from the previous year; the decrease in movement of canned milk products, however, was slight and 1953 export trade was 99.7 percent of 1952 movement. On a milk equivalent basis exports of dairy products for 1953 exceeded 30 billion pounds, an increase of 6 percent over 1952.

The greatest gain in trade was registered by cheese which increased more than 10 percent over the previous year, with recorded exports of more than 800 million pounds. Of the major cheese exporting countries only France, Italy, Switzerland and Australia showed significant losses in cheese trade. The largest percentage gains was registered by Canada, which increased its 1952 trade more than 7 times and Argentina with a gain of 80 percent.

World trade in cheese is now about one-third greater than prewar.

In 1953 trade in butter showed an increase of 5 percent over the previous year with export shipments totaling 938 million pounds, approximately the level of 1951. World trade in butter is still less than 85 percent of prewar trade.

Canadian and United States exports of butter during 1953 were less than one-third of previous year's shipments while exports from the Union of South Africa were down to less than 25 percent of 1952. New Zealand lost 55 million pounds of butter trade during the year. To offset these losses principal European exporters increased their shipments of butter by more than 60 million pounds while Argentina thrust itself into a major position in the world butter trade by increasing its export shipments from 2.6 million pounds to 33.6 million.

Canned milk trade remained at slightly more than 881 million pounds, about 2.3 million pounds under 1952 levels. With shipments from Oceania at approximately last year's level and increase in United States trade counterbalancing the decrease in Canadian trade and the net loss suffered by European exporters, the difference in trade from 1952 is approximately the loss of exports from the Union of South Africa.

Significantly, the largest individual gains were registered by the two largest exporting countries, the United States and the Netherlands which gained 24.6 and 18.4 million pounds respectively. The biggest loss was felt by Western Germany which exported only 3.3 million pounds in 1953 as compared with almost 21 million pounds in 1952.

1/ A more extensive statement will soon be published as a Foreign Agricultural Circular published by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Foreign Agriculture Service, Washington 25, D. C.

BUTTER: International Trade in specified countries, Averages
1934-38, 1946-50, Annual 1952 and 1953, Preliminary

Continent and Country	Averages							
	1934-38		1946-50		1952		1953	
	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds
NORTH AMERICA								
Canada	1/ 6,613	1/ 1,114	2,239	4,134	866	4,567	191	5
Mexico	2/ 1/	172	2/	205	178	146	2/	156
Panama, Republic of	—	1,799	— 3/	1,275	—	4/	—	4/
United States	1,152	9,307	4,982	2,258	914	458	362	126
Cuba	5/ 610	5/ 23	2/	946	—	1,596	—	562
Netherlands Antilles	—	452	— 3/	1,500	— 6/	1,200	— 6/	1,400
Trinidad and Tobago	—	1,788	—	1,500	— 6/	2,800	— 6/	800
SOUTH AMERICA								
Argentina	18,823	64	21,562	—	2,608	—	33,583	—
Brazil	9	— 5/	7	—	—	1,263	—	7/
Chile	36	64	— 5/	556	—	134	— 6/	1,100
Colombia	2/ 2/	38	2/ 5/	41	— 6/	85	— 6/	20
Peru	2/	311	— 5/	718	— 6/	2,900	— 6/	1,200
Venezuela	—	798	— 5/	5,340	—	6,249	—	1,975
EUROPE								
Austria	5,980	73	2/ 5/	374	—	1,791	—	250
Belgium	68	9,930	463	44,948	710	59,037	—	28,693
Czechoslovakia	754	1,918	— 5/	5,681	4/	4/	4/	4/
Denmark	328,573	37	245,978	—	251,443	—	299,143	—
Finland	2,467	13	—	6,916	9,222	3,419	—	3,089
France	8,932	3,640	5,211	25,504	2,710	33,102	3,283	42,468
Germany, Western	— 10/	203,465	— 5/	53,629	—	19,875	—	19,074
Greece	2/	860	—	498	—	155	—	4/
Hungary	9,118	—	4/	4/	4/	4/	4/	4/
Ireland	51,843	448 5/	2,851	2/	920	12,320	644	10,495
Italy	1,067	2,249 5/	158 5/	7,269	21	19,200	—	21,000
Netherlands	109,587	356	62,921	310	110,056	106	116,226	18
Norway	726	2	2,691 5/	894	4,389	—	11,378	—
Poland	18,665	2	4/	4/	4/	4/	4/	4/
Portugal	141	229 5/	521	1,774	1,967	2/	25	2/
Rumania	217	—	4/	4/	4/	4/	4/	4/
Spain	5/ 21	5/ 111	4/	4/	4/	4/	4/	4/
Sweden	50,547	353	7,051 5/	833	28,746	—	29,696	—
Switzerland	7	2,033	321	21,590	2	15,925	1	13,076
United Kingdom	1,367	1,074,727	—	606,317	—	580,705	—	631,613
Yugoslavia	282	2/ 5/	35 11/	55	14	—	7/	7/
USSR (Europe & Asia)	46,486	401	4/	4/	4/	4/	4/	4/
ASIA								
British Malaya 12/	571	4,078	— 3/	2,600	—	5,044	—	3,576
Ceylon 12/	—	963	— 3/	1,723	—	1,551	—	1,950
India 12/	4,142	6,175	— 5/	921	—	1,500	— 6/	1,500
Indonesia 12/	—	12,352	— 3/	800	— 5/	100	— 6/	100
Israel	—	4,826	— 3/	200	—	4/	—	4/
Japan	562	141	— 3/	300	— 6/	3,300	— 6/	6,500
Philippines, Rep. of	—	1,566	— 5/	1,609	—	1,141	— 6/	1,700
AFRICA								
Algeria	12	4,337	— 5/	4,357	—	6,232	—	8,023
Belgian Congo 12/	13	800	— 3/	900	— 6/	1,900	— 6/	2,100
Egypt 12/ 13/	119	1,140 3/	54 3/	1,500	35	923 14/	55 6/	800
Southern Rhodesia	289	116	51	863	68	1,628	76	2,413
Union of South Africa 15/	6,192 15/	3,291	396	7,139	1,284	5,648	302	4,685
OCEANIA								
Australia	220,151	2	164,318	—	76,592	—	87,122	—
New Zealand	308,895	2	291,200	—	411,077	—	355,986	—

1/ Average for 1935-39. 2/ Less than 500 pounds. 3/ For 1950. 4/ Not available. 5/ Less than a 5-year average. 6/ Based on incomplete data or exports by country of destination, as reported by major supplying countries. 7/ Incomplete. 8/ For 1937. 9/ For 1934. 10/ For 1938. 11/ For 1948. 12/ Included Ghee. 13/ Does not include trade with Anglo-Egyptian Sudan. 14/ Estimated. 15/ Years ending August 31.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared or estimated from official statistics, U. S. Foreign Service reports, and other information.—July 26, 1954.

CHEESE: International Trade in Specified Countries, Averages
1934-38, 1946-50, Annual 1952 and 1953, Preliminary

Continent and Country	Average 1934-38		Average 1946-50		1952		1953	
	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
NORTH AMERICA								
Canada	1/ 79,700	1/ 1,342	63,530	3,176	2,095	12,087	16,429	5,219
Mexico	15	895	164	858	1	1,693	8	1,595
Panama, Republic of	--	348	--	2/ 700	--	3/	--	3/
United States	1,260	54,279	99,706	28,874	3,811	49,207	5,912	56,215
Cuba	13 1/2	428	--	629	--	4,367	--	1,812
Netherlands Antilles	2	611	--	2/ 1,100	--	5/ 1,100	--	5/ 1,200
Trinidad and Tobago	--	600	--	2/ 1,400	--	5/ 600	--	5/ 700
SOUTH AMERICA								
Argentina	3,406	110	25,258	--	5,692	--	10,218	--
Brazil	4	362 6/	2 1/2	1,332	--	2	--	7/
Chile	62	48	--	1/ 15	--	11	--	7/
Colombia	2	37	--	1/ 10	--	5/ 2	--	5/ 1
Peru	--	688	--	1/ 404	--	5/ 900	--	5/ 800
Venezuela	13	1,235	--	1/ 7,105	--	10,666	--	8,847
EUROPE								
Austria	6,720	1,818 1/2	1,675 1/2	1	266	2,821	3,377	1,876
Belgium	344	50,563 1/2	1,182	59,937	838	70,565	798	71,275
Bulgaria	3,554	8/	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/
Czechoslovakia	1,909	2,706 1/2	831 1/2	518	3/	3/	3/	3/
Denmark	18,067	33	46,558	31	118,698	79	131,808	569
Finland	11,651	31	5,732	--	20,992	--	23,810	--
France	25,039	30,867	23,948	23,485	39,469	37,063	36,753	18,831
Germany, Western	-- 1/2	22,000 1/2	4,940 1/2	72,754	9,072	89,515	8,439	117,712
Greece	621	800	--	7,665	--	5,759	--	3/
Hungary	862	15	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/
Ireland	1,509	60 1/2	2,008 1/2	104	2,919	--	1,289	--
Italy	53,219	9,669	18,074	8,372	42,555	32,003	37,587	51,027
Malta and Gozo	--	1,647	--	2,400	--	400	--	5/ 600
Netherlands	132,358	934	75,467	1,086	172,115	531	189,695	584
Norway	4,111	338	712	648	2,295	1,246	5,646	517
Poland	1,360	317	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/
Portugal	143	386 1/2	722 1/2	13	923	45	1,042	48
Rumania	139	90	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/
Spain	1/2 117 1/2	2,502	-- 1/2	13	3/	3/	3/	3/
Sweden	625	2,473	4,453	5,239	4,054	9,762	10,348	5,778
Switzerland	41,678	3,924	18,011 1/2	3,445	44,441	4,933	40,325	5,806
United Kingdom	2,987	319,028	--	411,820	--	306,511	--	327,098
Yugoslavia	4,169	55 2/	26	--	1,101	18	7/	--
U.S.S.R. (Europe & Asia)	84	816	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/
ASIA								
British Malaya	22	313	-- 1/2	569	--	704	--	833
Ceylon	--	220	-- 2/	500	--	374	--	511
Cyprus	666	88	3/	3/	1,027	320	1,156	400
India	4	1,204	-- 1/2	848	--	5/ 500	--	5/ 950
Israel	33	2,138	-- 2/	4,000	--	3/	--	3/
Japan	--	159	-- 2/	200	--	5/ 1,600	--	5/ 2,500
Philippines, Republic of	--	895	--	1,557	--	5/ 2,100	--	5/ 1,800
Syria and Lebanon	553	917 1/2	34 1/2	8,702	--	5/ 1,300	--	5/ 1,600
AFRICA								
Algeria	82	10,833	-- 2/	18,000	--	23,330	--	21,487
Belgian Congo	4	337	-- 2/	500	--	5/ 700	--	5/ 950
Egypt 9/	1/2 82 1/2	7,269 1/2	84 1/2	9,000	142	11,130 10/	185 5/	7,200
Southern Rhodesia	80	64	80	159	8	980	87	768
Union of South Africa	11/ 1,465 11/	496	197	145	172	694	196	587
OCEANIA								
Australia	21,750	104	50,185	175	52,839	--	51,610	--
New Zealand	194,000	2	193,653	--	202,487	--	227,047	--

1/ Average 1935-39. 2/ For 1950. 3/ Not Available. 1/2 Less than a 5-year average. 5/ Based on incomplete data or exports by country of destination, as reported by major supplying countries. 6/ For 1946. 7/ Incomplete. 8/ Less than 500 pounds. 9/ Does not include trade with Anglo-Egyptian Sudan. 10/ Estimated. 11/ Years ending August 31.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared or estimated from official statistics, United States Foreign Service reports, and other information. July 26, 1954.

CANNED MILK (Condensed and Evaporated): International Trade in Specified
Countries, Averages 1934-38, 1946-50, Annual 1952 and 1953,
Preliminary

Continent and Country	Average 1934-38		Average 1946-50		1952		1953	
	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
NORTH AMERICA								
Canada	1/ 19,755	1/ 25	50,552	34	25,945	25	18,582	22
Mexico	-- 1/	614	2/ 3	1,464	2	120	10	162
Panama, Republic of	--	4,327	-- 3/	3,700	--	4/	--	4/
United States	33,837	452	504,310	211	126,648	13	151,226	472
Cuba	5/ 17	4,691	2/ 5	30,780	--	56,384	--	35,931
Netherlands Antilles	--	3,060	-- 3/	6,000	-- 6/	5,700	-- 6/	5,500
SOUTH AMERICA								
Argentina	46	311	2/ 1,089	--	4/	4/	4/	4/
Brazil	7/ 4	-- 2/	90	--	-- 6/	1	--	4/
Peru	-- 8/	7,833	-- 3/	14,954	-- 6/	12,315	-- 6/	9,400
EUROPE								
Austria	8/ 428	8/ 406	2/ 5	2/ 597	--	1,214	--	135
Belgium	2,202	4,255	2/ 498	2/ 67,487	1,197	44,145	439	44,758
Czechoslovakia	7/ 1	7/ 307	2/ 6	2/ 265	4/	4/	4/	4/
Denmark	40,439	--	58,941	9/ 44	100,863	--	91,513	--
France	8/ 11,277	2,955	20,168	28,952	32,967	2,895	28,847	1,582
Germany, Western	4/	4/ 3/	272	3/ 8,881	8/ 20,709	8/ 2,075	8/ 3,278	8/ 3,805
Greece	--	4,309	-- 2/	63,532	--	21,102	-- 10/	17,425
Ireland	2/ 12,936	2/ 60	17,781	--	19,689	--	11,980	--
Italy	8/ 3,301	344	2/ 800	2/ 32,116	441	864	10/ 69	10/ 3,032
Netherlands	356,087	77	194,670	3/ 148	439,397	439	457,802	483
Norway	4,667	67	113	6	608	-- 8/	1,711	--
Spain	11/ 26	11/ 28	--	17	--	4/	--	4/
Sweden	7/ 115	7/ 18	1,620	2/ 5,485	1,102	--	3,743	--
Switzerland	12,987	9	4,448	4,585	8,662	1,543	9,041	3,599
United Kingdom	36,002	199,204	8,332	121,455	3,589	92,752	3,438	71,316
ASIA								
British Malaya	9,000	74,000	-- 3/	66,000	-- 6/	33,000	-- 6/	37,000
Burma	--	7/ 19,945	-- 2/	17,449	-- 6/	18,400	-- 6/	24,000
Ceylon	--	4/	-- 3/	8,700	-- 8/	13,122	-- 8/	12,703
Hong Kong	--	4/	-- 3/	24,000	-- 6/	13,000	-- 6/	7,300
India	-- 7/	6,440	--	16,863	-- 6/	8,500	-- 6/	8,100
Indonesia	--	4/	-- 3/	47,000	-- 6/	59,000	-- 6/	18,000
Israel	--	2,000	-- 3/	1,200	-- 6/	300	-- 6/	200
Japan	8/ 9,800	8/ 1,300	-- 3/	2,600	-- 6/	1,000	-- 6/	1,400
Pakistan	--	4/	-- 3/	7,200	-- 6/	7,200	-- 6/	1,800
Philippines, Republic of	--	40,643	--	75,642	-- 6/	91,300	-- 6/	113,000
Thailand	--	21,731	-- 3/	37,000	-- 6/	49,000	-- 6/	36,000
AFRICA								
Algeria	-- 8/	5,900	-- 3/	9,300	-- 6/	4,200	-- 6/	6,400
Belgian Congo	--	4/	-- 3/	1,300	-- 6/	2,200	-- 6/	3,300
Egypt	-- 7/	96	-- 3/	2,700	--	1,823	--	2,077
Gold Coast	--	4/	-- 3/	6,300	-- 6/	6,100	-- 6/	7,000
Union of South Africa	--	3,105	513	2/ 2,786	4,123	202	1,226	1,382
OCEANIA								
Australia	15,392	--	70,748	2/ 2	71,836	--	75,281	--
New Zealand	6,156	--	20,348	--	26,127	--	23,445	--

1/ Average for 1935-39. 2/ Less than a 5-year average. 3/ For 1950. 4/ Not available. 5/ For 1939. 6/ Based on incomplete data, or exports by country of destination, as reported by major supplying countries. 7/ For 1938. 8/ Includes dried milk. 9/ For 1946. 10/ For 11 months. 11/ For 1935.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared or estimated from official statistics, United States Foreign Service reports, and other information. 7-26-54.

DRIED MILK (Whole and Skimmed): International Trade in specified
countries, Averages 1934-38, 1946-50, Annual 1952 and 1953,
Preliminary

Continent and Country	Averages							
	1934-38		1946-50		1952		1953	
	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds
NORTH AMERICA								
Canada	1/ 5,580	1/ 431	24,357	4,791	42,733	387	37,422	120
Mexico	-	466	-	10,962	-	13,685	-	17,788
Panama, Republic of	-	305	2/ 2,000	-	-	3/	-	3/
United States	4,804	6,055	280,041	2,176	101,265	37,580	144,167	6,301
Cuba	-	4/ 5/ 2	2,066	5/ 2,066	6/ 2,000	-	6/ 1,000	-
Netherlands Antilles	-	3/	-	2/ 1,100	6/ 1,100	-	6/ 1,500	-
SOUTH AMERICA								
Argentina	1/ 97	-	4/ 2,452	-	3/	3/	3/	3/
Brazil	7/ 2	7/ 172	-	5/ 3,481	-	18,684	-	8/
Peru	-	9/	-	5/ 684	6/ 1,300	-	6/ 1,300	-
Venezuela	-	10/ 1,807	-	5/ 45,622	6/ 48,000	-	6/ 50,400	-
EUROPE								
Austria	2/	2/ 9	5/ 1,255	-	2,070	-	-	99
Belgium	11/ 41	11/ 7,741	5/ 851	5/ 12,988	7,795	20,501	19,709	19,491
Czechoslovakia	-	154	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/
Denmark	594	-	9,782	5/ 478	26,054	413	25,236	65
France	9/	2,168	1,847	26,279	6,254	5,755	4,337	9,815
Germany, Western	3/	3/ 2/	19,851	2/ 8,057	2/	2/	2/	2/
Greece	-	209	5/ 26,894	-	2,007	-	12/ 2,204	-
Ireland	627	213	2,935	454	5,736	4,075	4,062	10,579
Netherlands	37,223	111 5/	33,524 5/	8,276	81,442	4,863	64,491	7,011
Norway	10	90	35	115	23	4	-	17
Spain	13/ 14	13/ 375	-	1,152	-	3/	-	3/
Sweden	-	7/ 864	9,758	-	15,097	-	9,206	-
Switzerland 14/	15/ 3,036	-	5/ 2,260	3,927	5,936	4,927	7,792	5,522
United Kingdom	-	30,859	5/ 1,963	5/ 63,388	3,545	95,200	5,075	134,645
ASIA								
British Malaya	-	643	-	5/ 3,766	-	3,976	-	12/ 3,053
Burma	-	3/	-	2/ 1,000	-	6/ 100	-	6/ 400
Ceylon	-	3/	-	2/ 2,300	-	9/	-	2/
Hong Kong	-	3/	-	2/ 2,200	-	6/ 1,400	-	6/ 1,700
India	-	1,525	-	5/ 16,665	-	6/ 30,000	-	6/ 38,000
Indonesia	-	3/	-	2/ 6,500	-	6/ 800	-	6/ 3,000
Israel	-	1,268	-	2/ 16,000	-	6/ 24,000	-	6/ 19,000
Japan	2/	2/	-	2/ 62,000	-	6/ 32,000	-	6/ 19,000
Philippines, Rep. of	-	1/ 735	-	3,988	-	6/ 1,300	-	6/ 6,100
Thailand	-	3/	-	2/ 4,600	-	6/ 900	-	6/ 1,100
AFRICA								
Belgian Congo	-	3/	-	2/ 2,300	-	6/ 2,000	-	6/ 3,000
Egypt	-	7/ 38	-	2/ 2,082	-	1,511	-	1,922
Union of So. Africa	7/ 7	7/ 724	5/ 149	1,071	204	20	204	829
OCEANIA								
Australia	3,324	299	22,558 5/	141	46,544	3/	57,119	3/
New Zealand	16,111	-	41,698	-	114,392	-	117,550	-

1/ Average for 1935-39. 2/ For 1950. 3/ Not available. 4/ Less than 500 pounds. 5/ Less than a 5-year average. 6/ Based on incomplete data or exports by country of destination as reported by major supplying countries. 7/ For 1938. 8/ Incomplete. 9/ Included with canned milk. 10/ Includes canned milk. 11/ Average for 1937-39. 12/ For 11 months. 13/ For 1935. 14/ Includes infants foods. 15/ For 1939.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared or estimated from official statistics, U. S. Foreign Service reports, and other information.--July 26, 1954.

Trade in evaporated and condensed milk products is more than 50 percent above prewar when exports averaged 555 million pounds.

With total exports of 496 million pounds, 1953 world trade in dry milk was more than 40 million pounds above 1952, an increase of almost 9 percent. The increase in United States trade was about 2.5 million pounds more than the increase in total world exports; approximately one-third of the exports from the United States were government made or under the auspices of the United Nations Children's Fund.

Since trade data from many countries do not distinguish dried milk products, it is impossible to state what percent of total exports are dried whole milk. However, a breakdown of data from the Netherlands, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, and the United States, countries which account for approximately 85 percent of all dried milk exports, show that about three-eighths of the shipments are of dried whole milk.

The world trade picture for 1954 is somewhat clouded. The United Kingdom, which has in the past, accounted for more than two-thirds of the imports of butter, over 50 percent of the cheese imports and approximately 15 percent of the trade in processed milk imports, has given evidence of continually increasing local production of manufactured dairy products and a gradual reduction in import requirements. Furthermore, recent developments have caused the cancellation of the long-term United Kingdom-New Zealand bulk dairy contract as of July 1, 1954; the results of this termination are difficult to foresee. The United States, faced with high stocks of butter, cheese and non-fat dry milk solids purchased at relatively high support prices, has recently offered these Government-owned products at world prices for export providing their sale will not replace established trade relations of other countries. Sales under this export program have so far been of only token amounts, but a recent announcement indicates that 14 million pounds of butter are in process of being sold to United Kingdom exporters under the program. -- By T. W. McCabe and R. M. Murray, based on U.S. Foreign Service reports and published trade statistics.

MEXICO'S IMPORTS OF ANIMAL FATS IN JANUARY-MAY INCREASE; EXPORTS OF PEANUTS DOWN

Mexico's imports of animal fats, including lard, were substantially larger in the January-May period of this year than in the corresponding months of the year before, according to Agricultural Attache Paul G. Minneman, American Embassy, Mexico City. Exports of peanuts, of which Mexico is a traditional supplier, were somewhat below the volume moved a year earlier.

MEXICO: Imports and exports of selected fats, oils,
and oilseeds, January-May, 1954 and 1953

(Metric tons)

Commodity	January-May	
	1953	1954

Imports

Animal fats (unspecified).....	604	: 10,411
Lard.....	2,718	: 4,727
Cottonseed.....	5,898	: 5,253

Exports

Peanuts (shelled).....	7,989	: 8,591
Peanuts (unshelled).....	2,720	: 1,586
Flaxseed.....	0	: 0

Source: Direccion General de Estadistica

In the first 5 months of this year, Mexico's imports of animal fats (presumed to be largely inedible tallow and greases) were 17 times greater than in the January-May months of 1953. Lard imports were nearly 75 percent greater. On the other hand, imports of cottonseed were down about one-tenth.

While exports of shelled peanuts were up roughly 10 percent, shipments of unshelled peanuts were down more than one-third. And, like last year, there were no exports of flaxseed from Mexico in the first 5 months.

Production of oilseeds in Mexico in 1954, according to present indications, will be somewhat greater than last year. While acreage of the annual oilseed crops is estimated unofficially to be about the same as in 1953, the expected increases in production are due primarily to favorable soil moisture conditions in June.

Output of cottonseed is tentatively forecast by the American Embassy at 525,000 metric tons, a marked increase from the 433,000 tons produced in 1953 and the 1948-52 average of 376,000 tons. Reflecting the increase in Mexico's plantings of coconut trees in recent years, output of copra is expected to be 80,000 tons, in comparison with 65,000 in 1953 and the 5-year average of 42,000 tons. While production of peanuts is forecast at 75,000 tons, an increase of half from last year, output of sesame seed at 80,000 tons reflects but a small expansion from 1953. Flaxseed production in 1954 is expected to be about 25,000 tons, a decline of roughly one-fifth. The decline in flaxseed production in recent years is attributed to the low prices prevailing for this commodity relative to those for competing crops such as cotton.

U. S. NET IMPORTS OF OILSEED MEALS DOWN SHARPLY

The United States trade in oilseed cakes and meals during the 8-month period October 1953 - February 1954 resulted in net imports of 24,433 short tons, against net imports of 262,120 tons in the corresponding period of 1952-53. The annual rates of net imports of copra and cottonseed meals were substantially below the preceding 2 years, while the rates of net exports of soybean and linseed meals were higher. During the complete years beginning October 1952 and 1951, net imports totaled 232,264 and 303,586 tons, respectively, whereas in 1950-51, net exports were 40,649 tons. (See Foreign Crops and Markets of April 26, 1954, page 364.)

UNITED STATES: Net trade in oilseed cake and meal, by kind,
year beginning October 1, 1949-52, monthly, October 1953-May 1954 ^{1/}

(Short tons)

Year and month	Copra	Cotton- seed	Linseed	Peanut	Soybean	Other	Total
1949.....	56,485	-18,831	-1,683	-42,673	-21,312	32,219	4,205
1950.....	65,762	76,779	-28,224	-22,890	-148,279	16,203	-40,649
1951.....	103,818	167,003	16,277	3,005	-17,649	31,132	303,586
1952.....	95,987	80,462	26,342	3,471	-10,731	36,733	232,264
1953:							
October.....	6,517	-5,489	-15	0	-9,340	67	-8,260
November.....	6,359	-86	-308	0	-14,081	58	-8,958
December.....	7,000	6,243	-3,663	-500	-12,045	482	-2,483
January.....	5,872	4,189	-1,118	10	-3,181	1,092	6,864
February.....	3,038	1,279	-1,610	-784	-1,254	948	1,617
March.....	7,563	5,944	-2,862	-112	-4,048	1,961	8,446
April.....	6,011	9,359	-1,823	0	-2,707	2,207	13,047
May.....	6,754	5,246	-10	0	-1,885	3,155	13,260
Total Oct-May.....	49,114	26,685	-11,409	-1,386	-48,541	9,970	24,433

^{1/} Minus sign (-) indicates net exports.

Compiled from Bureau of the Census data.

U. S. Department of Agriculture, Foreign Agricultural Service

TRADE DEVELOPMENTS IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Floods in Central Europe Threaten Crops --- Central Europe has been visited by flood and weather calamities which are almost unique in that area. The Danube and its smaller tributaries flooded the surrounding agricultural areas in Bavaria, Austria and Czechoslovakia, and inundations are also reported from the rivers of northern Czechoslovakia and Eastern Germany. No information is yet available regarding floods in the Danube Basin south of the Czech-Hungarian border.

Estimates of the extent of flood damage in Bavaria are not yet available. In Austria, according to preliminary estimates, the flood damage to crops and livestock, though important in individual areas, may not have resulted in extremely heavy losses for the country as a whole, but heavy rainfalls which preceded the floods and an exceptional cold spell which interrupted the grazing season in the Alpine regions are expected to depress seriously total agricultural output.

In Czechoslovakia, the flood damage to crops seems to be most important in the Danube region, and of smaller importance elsewhere. Yet heavy and prolonged rains over a great part of the territory not only retarded harvesting, but also damaged considerably grain and hay crops and presage a bad crop year. In Eastern Germany, flood damage extends over thousands of hectares, (1 hectare equals 2.471 acres) especially in Saxony. Crop damage caused by rain and unseasonable winds may prove substantial and produce further political unrest.

Measures taken to improve Denmark's Foreign Exchange Position --- The Danish Government has announced a 4-point program to halt the deterioration of its foreign exchange position: reduction of treasury expenditure for public and subsidized private building construction; reduction of military construction expenditures and cancellation of orders for military equipment; absorption of consumption funds through a special bond issue; and tightening of conditions for purchasing of automobiles. The Government states it has no intention of tightening import restrictions.

Though its overall foreign exchange position is difficult, Denmark's dollar position is improving. Danish exports to the United States during the first 5 months of 1954 were some 25 percent higher than during the same period in 1953 and exceeded imports from the United States by nearly 50 percent.

Easing of German Import Control Machinery --- German import procedures will be simplified as of August 1, 1954. A general import authorization granted to the importer will do away with the preliminary examination which has hitherto been made of import requests. It is stated that about 70 percent of all imports will be subject to this simplified procedure. This is the first time in 20 years that imports have been permitted place without specific authorization.

United Kingdom and Commonwealth Countries Discuss Trade --- According to Government sources in the United Kingdom, consultations between British Commonwealth countries will precede the 1954 review of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. Among the matters to be discussed will be: the Commonwealth's position as regards the United States agricultural export program; and an extension of tariff preferentials on commodities produced within the Commonwealth.

Bilateral trade discussions have already taken place this summer between the United Kingdom and other Commonwealth countries. These discussions centered on the question of outlets for agricultural products in the United Kingdom. Except for the curtailment in exports to the United Kingdom as a result of surplus British milk production, the movement of Commonwealth supplies to Britain are deemed by Commonwealth officials to be very satisfactory. Grain exports from Canada are moving as rapidly as transportation facilities permit and, as a result of conversations held in London and Canada, Canadian producers are assured that U.K.-Canada agreements will be reached for cheddar cheese and for apples and bacon should there be Canadian surpluses available for export.

Argentine Foreign Reserves Increase but Imports Decline --- As a result of low imports and improved export earnings during 1953, Argentina was able to accumulate overseas reserves and to reduce its commercial indebtedness to several principal trading countries. Its overseas financial position was better at the end of 1953 than it has been for about two years. There was a surplus of about \$354 million in the 1953 balance of payments. This advantage from additional reserves, however, is small in relation to the accumulated demand for foreign imports, especially for most kinds of capital equipment.

Exports during 1953, consisting mainly of agricultural and livestock products, were valued at approximately \$1,148 million. This was above 1952, but failed to equal the 1948 peak figure of \$1,407 million. Imports dropped to about \$861 million in 1953, which is the lowest level of the postwar period. The IAPI, state trading agency, accounted for about 20 percent of the imports and 63 percent of the exports.

There has been no important change during the first quarter of 1954 in Argentina's foreign trade conditions or policies. The volume of trade continues to be restricted with imports held down in order to produce a favorable trade balance. Monetary reserves have been increased moderately at a cost of a shorter supply of foreign goods, especially badly needed capital equipment. The system of bilateral agreements, state trading, and other state controls seem likely to continue for the present, although with some adaptations required by the growth of private trading abroad especially in the United Kingdom and Germany.

Uruguay Takes Steps to Increase Supplies of Meat in City Shops --- The Uruguayan Government has recently passed legislative measures regarding the meat industry of Uruguay that are expected to give the Frigorifico Nacional (government supported meat packing house) priority over all private packing houses in the purchase of cattle for slaughter. Frigorifico Nacional has a monopoly for supplying meat to the city of Montevideo.

The measures should also help pay off Frigorifico Nacional's heavy indebtedness to cattle producers and increase its operating capital as well as control black market slaughters and sales. The measures were approved by the National Council of Government on July 6, 1954 and will enter into force 10 days after publication in the official government bulletin, Diario Oficial.

Some adverse affects are expected from these measures on the private meat packing houses in Uruguay, mostly foreign owned, which must compete with Frigorifico Nacional.

Costa Rica Initiating Cooperative Cacao and Coffee Projects -- The Ministry of Agriculture of Costa Rica has asked the Foreign Operations Administration to help set up cooperative projects to increase production of coffee and cacao. The technical staff of the Inter-American Institute of Agricultural Sciences would assist in carrying out the program. The proposed projects would be financed by contributions of both Governments on a 50-50 basis and would cost \$96,000 over an 18-month period.

The Ministry feels that the Costa Rican economy will be strengthened by a program to expand production of coffee and cacao. It also points out that the United States will profit by increased production of these important complementary crops.

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L A T E N E W S--(Continued from Page 73)

United States imports of cotton for consumption in May 1954 amounted to 11,000 bales (500 pounds gross) making a total of 128,000 bales for August-May 1953-54. This total includes from principal sources 67,000 bales from Egypt; 17,000 from India; 16,000 from Mexico; and 11,000 from Pakistan.

Imports of cotton linters into the United States in May 1954 amounted to 10,000 bales (500 pounds gross) making a total of 148,000 bales for August-May 1953-54. Principal sources included in the latter figure are Brazil 28,000 bales; Russia 23,000; and Mexico 81,000.

Exports of cotton linters from the United States during May 1954 amounted to 31,000 bales of 500 pounds gross. The August-May total of 234,000 bales shows Germany receiving 91,000 bales; France 42,000; United Kingdom 40,000; Japan 36,000; and Canada 15,000.

Transshipments of Mexican cotton through United States ports in April 1954 amounted to 37,000 bales (500 pounds gross) making a total of 629,000 bales for August 1953 - April 1954. During this period the principal destinations were: Japan 283,000 bales; Belgium 77,000; Western Germany 60,000; United Kingdom 59,000; the Netherlands 48,000; Spain 35,000; Switzerland 15,000; Sweden 11,000; Italy 8,000. These figures include linters, waste, hull fibers, etc. but do not include shipments of cotton to Canada by railroad or exports from Mexican ports directly to foreign destinations.

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